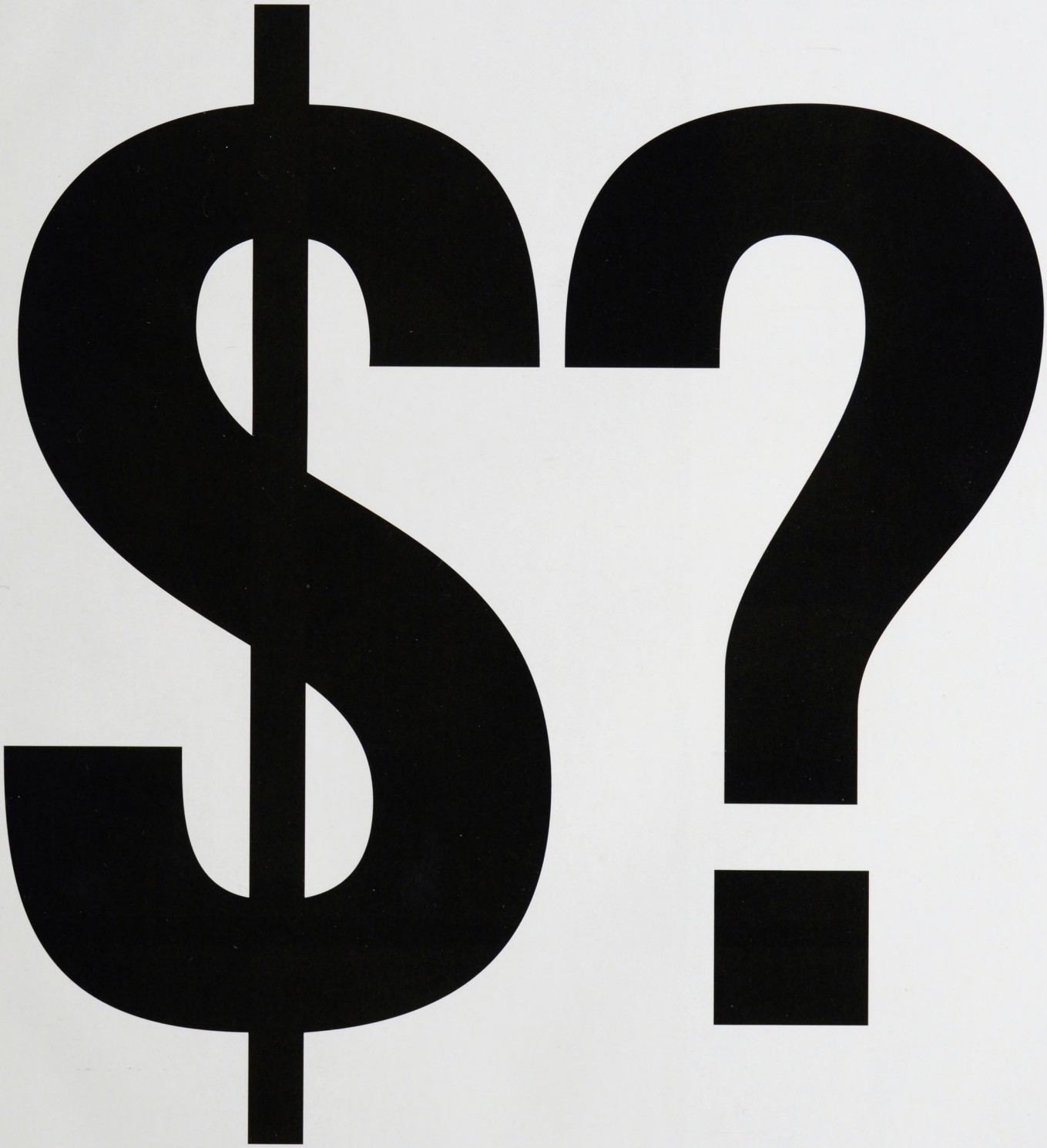
WINTER 2009

Middlebury

MAGAZINE



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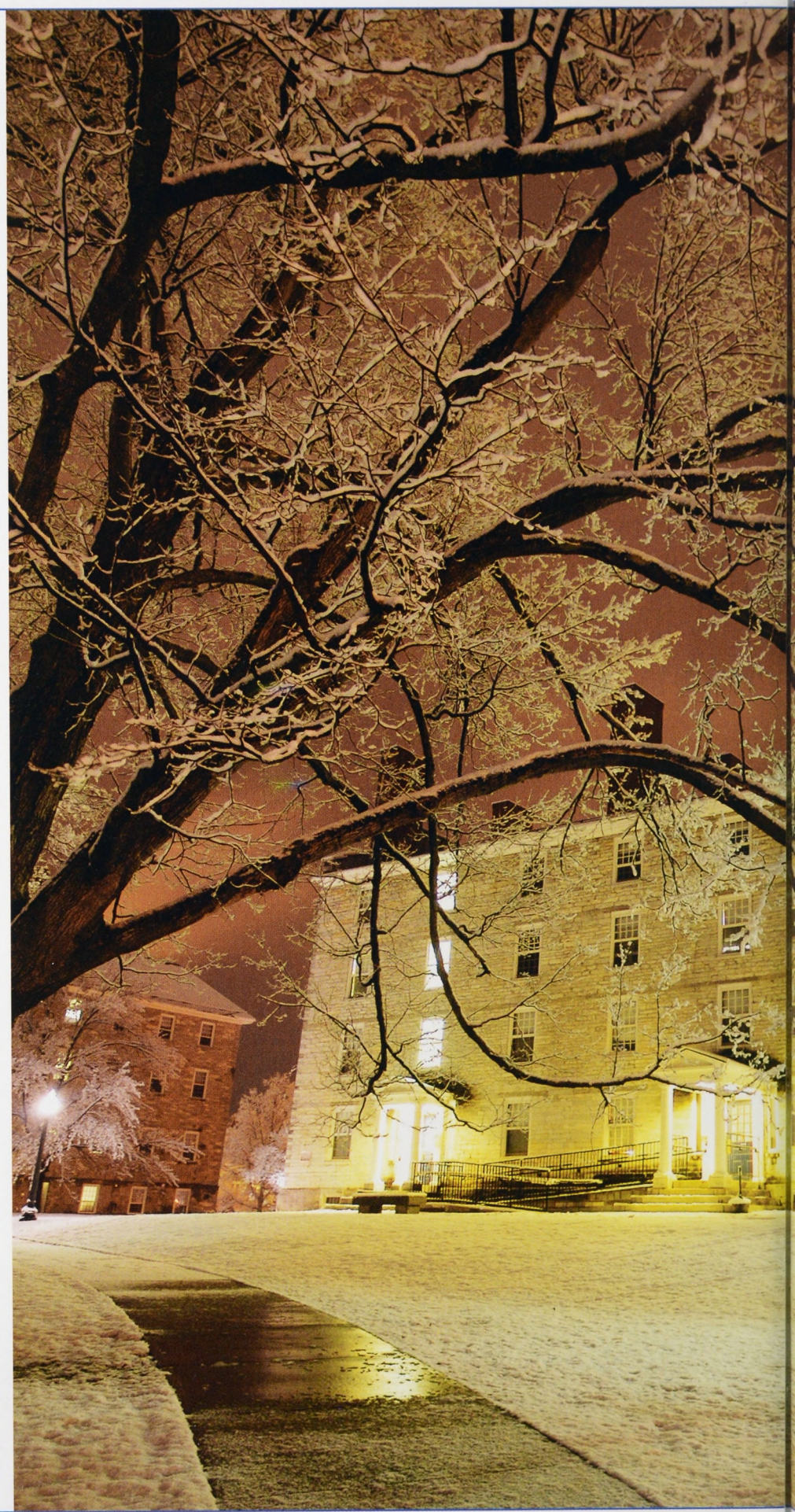

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WHITE LIGHTS
A dusting of snow on Old Stone Row.

Of Loss—and Hope

THIS IS NOT THE COLUMN I INTENDED TO WRITE, but sometimes human events intercede and upset the most well-laid plans.

A few weeks ago, two good friends suffered an unexpected and what I can only imagine to be an excruciatingly painful loss. Their combined heartache and resounding strength in the face of tragedy have refocused my thoughts these past few weeks, resulting in what can best be described as a prismatic view of the world around me.

I have thought about young Noah Harris ("Life Interrupted," fall 2007), who continues his courageous battle against a particularly vile form of cancer; and I have thought about the joy Noah continues to bring to his mother, Anne Harris '93; his father, Charles; and his two younger siblings.

I have thought about Mark Odom '87 ("The Road to Hawr Rajab," spring 2008), who has fought so valiantly and heroically among the battlefields of Iraq, only to return home and to face—with his mother Anne Curtis Odom '58—the untimely death of his father, retired Lieutenant General William E. Odom, himself a member of the Middlebury family and true American patriot.

I have thought about the Middlebury giants we have lost in the past year—Don Ballou; Kim Sparks; David Macey; and my neighbor, Howard Munford '34. And I have thought about the outpouring of warmth and fond recollections from legions of former students, friends, and colleagues on their behalf.

And in these troubling economic times, I have thought about families who are struggling; and others who are coming to their aid.

Strangely, I was thinking about all of these things—the competing forces of fear and courage, anguish and joy—while watching the inauguration of Barack Obama as the 44th president of the United States. Regardless of one's political persuasion, it was an awesome (in the truest sense of the word) sight—an African-American taking the oath of office for the highest position in the land on the steps of the United States Capitol, an enduring symbol of all that is great about this country yet also a building constructed, in large measure, by black slaves.

Spine-tingling, too, was the turnout of some 1 to 2 million people (by most estimates), many of whom put aside both partisan feelings and nagging concern about their and the nation's well-being; all to celebrate a truly historic occurrence.

For me, the performance of John Williams's arrangement of "Simple Gifts" by Anthony McGill, Yo Yo Ma, Gabriela Montero, and Itzhak Perlman brought the events of the past few weeks into perspective. "Simple Gifts" is a Shaker hymn written in the mid-19th century and popularized by its inclusion in Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*. It is also frequently played at special events at Sidwell Friends, the Washington, D.C., Quaker school where the Obama girls are enrolled—and where I once worked. As I recalled the theme of the composition and its emphasis on sacrifice, on shared values, and on the possibilities of a brighter future, I thought of my friends; and our community; and the greater nation, at large. And for the first time in a couple of weeks, I felt better about the days ahead. —*MJ*

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Photograph of Matt Jennings by Brett Simison.

A Great Patriot

THE MIDDLEBURY FAMILY HAS LOST A SPECIAL MEMBER. William E. Odom, West Point class of 1954, Ph.D., husband of Anne Curtis Odom '58, father of Mark Odom '87, retired army lieutenant general, former director of the National Security Agency, 10-year trustee of Middlebury, author of seven books, and distinguished roles in many other academic, nongovernmental and international institutions, died unexpectedly at his country home in Vermont, on May 30, 2008 (Obituaries, fall 2008).

I met Bill in the Army in 1958 at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where we were lieutenants. He struck me as bright and curious about matters beyond the work of his peers—more deep and intellectual than the rest of us, and still warm, quick and humorous. We reconnected in 1969 as lieutenant colonels at the Army's Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. I learned that he had married Anne Curtis, who I knew in undergraduate years, and they had a son, Mark.

We kept in touch over the years, and, in 2000, I invited him to keynote the Middlebury College Veterans Reunion. His subject was, "Is America Safe If No Middlebury Graduates Serve in the Military?" Despite the tongue-in-cheek title, he made a serious appeal to elite universities and colleges to deliver their fair share of the best and brightest to serve in the military.

Weeks before his death, the spring 2008 edition of *Middlebury Magazine* ran a riveting article of Mark's story ("The Road to Hawr Rajab") from college years to the present—why he chose a military career and his recent service in Iraq—an unusual track for a Middlebury graduate of his era.

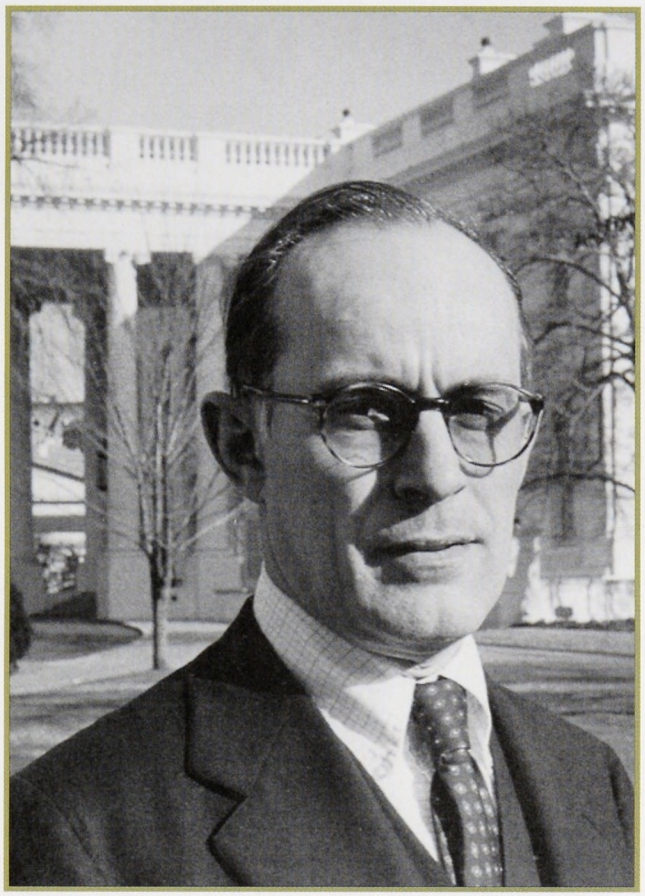
At noon on a warm and sunny day in September, Bill was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, among service men and women of all ranks, many who had died recently in Iraq and Afghanistan. The only speaker at the preceding service was Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, his mentor, friend, fellow intellectual, and associate in national security matters for years, who spoke of Bill's passion for justice and sound governance. His remarks appeared in the fall issue of this magazine.

Mark, now a lieutenant colonel and commander of the elite 2nd Ranger Battalion—in his fully decorated uniform covered with ribbons, badges and patches; paratrooper boots; beige beret of a Ranger; and green epaulette tabs of a commander—stood stoically saluting by his mother's side as the sound of a 15-gun salute rolled slowly and steadily down the hills from a far-off artillery battery, followed by three sharp rifle cracks from the seven-man firing party, and taps played perfectly by a lone distant bugler.

Bill has gone, but his gifts to the free world, to our country, to institutions he served, to his family and friends, and to Middlebury College stand as living monuments to a great patriot in our own time.

Richard E. Powell '56
Gainesville, Virginia

The writer is a lieutenant colonel, U.S. Army retired



REMEMBERING GENERAL ODOM
The death of an American patriot and a member of the Middlebury family sparked several fond remembrances.

Truly One of a Kind

THANK YOU FOR SHARING Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski's eloquent eulogy celebrating the life and works of William E. Odom, a distinguished American and Middlebury trustee and parent. It was my privilege to count Bill and his wife Anne (Curtis) '58 among close friends. It all started more than 25 years ago when their son, Mark Odom '87, became a political science major, and I served as his adviser. Before long, I realized that Mark's dad was the same Bill Odom whose writing on Soviet politics had been mandatory reading in my graduate studies at Princeton. In 1984, I invited Bill to give a talk—his first in a long series—at the College. I still vividly remember Bill's no-nonsense prediction in Munroe Hall Lounge packed with students and faculty that the Soviet Union was more likely to collapse than to reform. This was breathtaking stuff—Soviet collapse was something inconceivable at the time. A few years later, events proved him right.

After a distinguished career in government, Bill started teaching at Yale—

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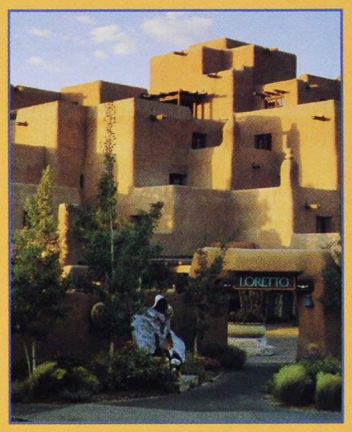

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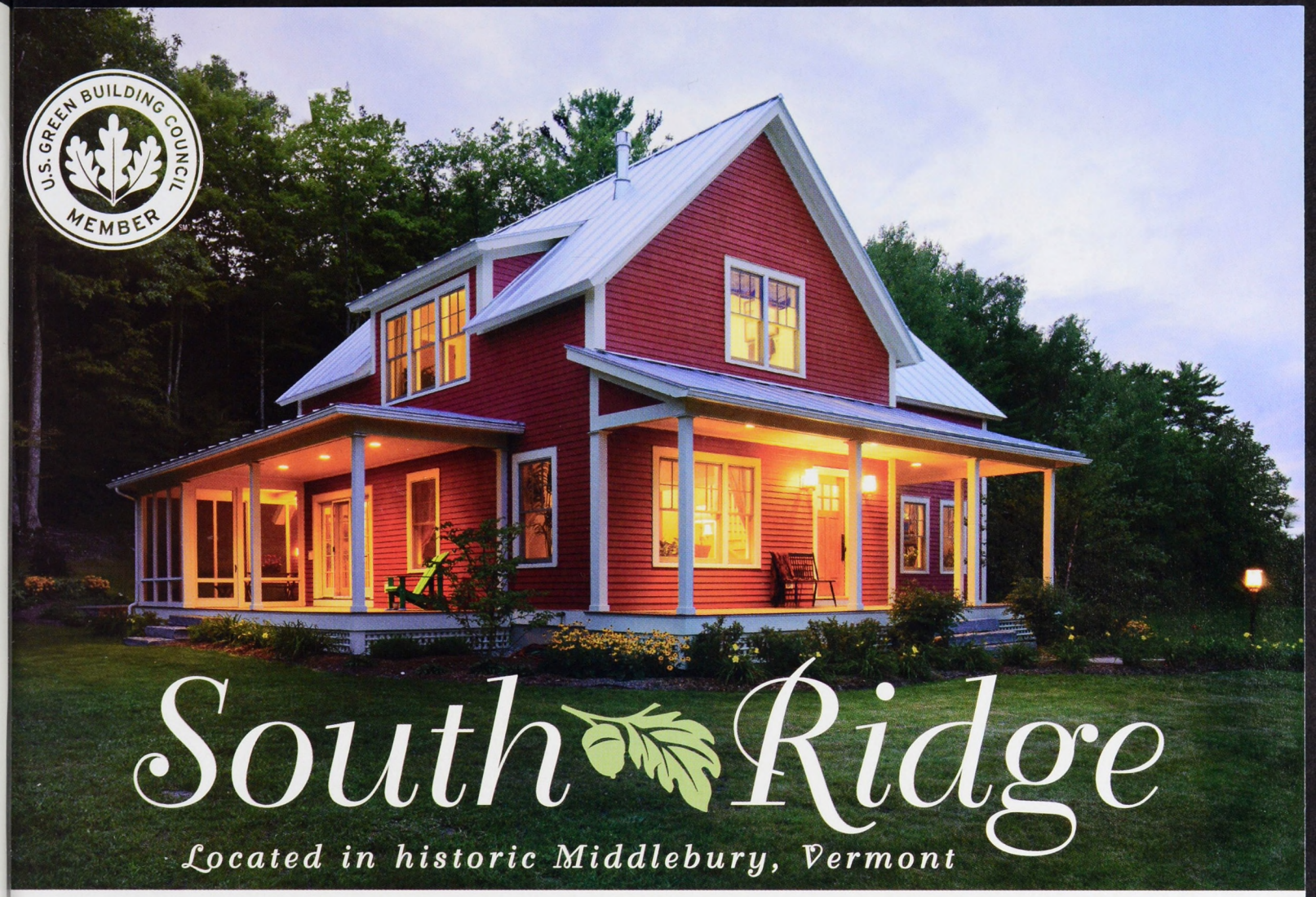

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though we did try to seduce him into teaching here—and in rapid succession in the 1990s, he produced a series of influential books on *America's Inadvertent Empire, Fixing Intelligence: For a More Secure America,* and *The Collapse of the Soviet Military.* They became required reading in my courses and the focus of many conversations with my students, which Bill would periodically join. Usually intense, provocative and opinionated, often contrarian, but always generous in spirit, Bill was exceedingly well read and loved to hear or coin an imaginative sentence or a catchy phrase. He explained the theme of the *The Collapse* as follows: "In a mere six years, the world's largest and arguably most powerful military melted like the spring ice in Russia's arctic rivers as it breaks up, drifts in floes, and slowly disappears."

His record of accomplishment has already been noted: a three-star U.S. Army general; a celebrated senior government servant; and a widely respected scholar, teacher, and policy analyst. He was also incredibly modest about all of this. Only very recently, decades after the fact, did I learn that Bill had been instrumental in smuggling out of Moscow Alexandr Solzhenitsyn's personal papers. Later, when the reclusive Russian Nobel laureate made his home in Cavendish, Vermont, he invited Bill to visit to express his appreciation. Once outside the government, Bill spoke truth to power, becoming a fierce critic of the war in Iraq, perhaps the first retired senior Army officer to do so. He cared deeply for his family and for his country, and he was also a huge booster of Middlebury wherever he went. Bill Odom was truly one of a kind, and I miss him.

Michael Kraus
Middlebury, Vermont

The writer is the Frederick C. Dirks Professor of Political Science and the director of Russian and East European studies at Middlebury

Just Right

I REMEMBER SEEKING GUIDANCE from Gary Margolis '67 ("This Is Next," fall

Where Midd meets online

Middlebury has established several outposts on the Internet, part of an effort to provide new and different ways for our extended family to keep in touch with the College and each other.

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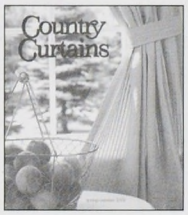

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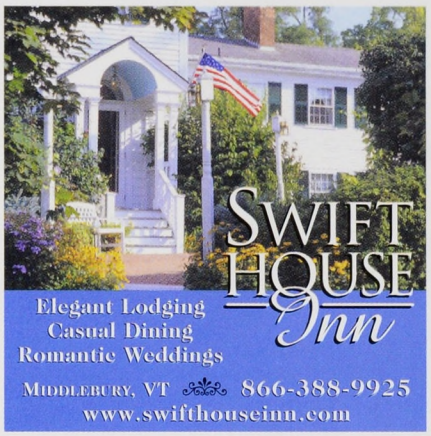

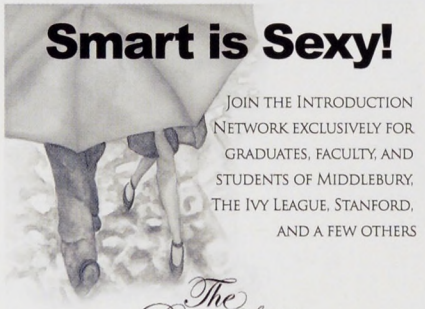
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2008), my senior year, when my running partner could no longer stand to hear of my anguished—and angry—ambivalence about my Middlebury beau.

The session went well; Mr. Middlebury and I parted civilly, kept in touch, and last reunion (25th!) gaily introduced each other to our respective spouses.

Thanks, Gary: Whatever you said, it was just the right thing.

Raleigh Mayer '82
New York, New York

Rain on Our Parade

LET ME BEGIN BY APPLAUDING President Liebowitz's desire to curb dangerous drinking at Middlebury ("Reflections on 'Work Hard, Play Hard,'" summer 2008). While I vehemently deny that our school faces a problem of unique stature or proportions, I cannot but admit that in my four years I witnessed behavior that was at times dangerous, demeaning, and most of all embarrassing to students of Middlebury's caliber. President Liebowitz faces an uphill battle that all college presidents must face, and while I applaud his intentions, in the instance of his 2008 Baccalaureate address, I must disapprove of his methods.

In my understanding, the Baccalaureate service is an opportunity for the president to impart some final wisdom upon the graduates—a final lesson, of sorts, to conclude their undergraduate careers. Certainly, as a first-year teacher myself, I understand that not all lessons are comfortable; often the most effective lessons deliberately induce students out of their comfort zones, so as to encourage them to adopt new perspectives and approaches. His address, however, came off not as a lesson, but as a condemnation. Any instruction for how my classmates and I might acquit ourselves in the future became obscured behind a harangue on our supposed failings in the past. It was heartbreaking to scan over the disappointed faces of my classmates in Mead Chapel as we met only with censure in an address that ought to have been celebratory, concluding, and deeply meaningful.

If President Liebowitz were to stand at a lectern each day of the school year and lay bare his disappointment over the

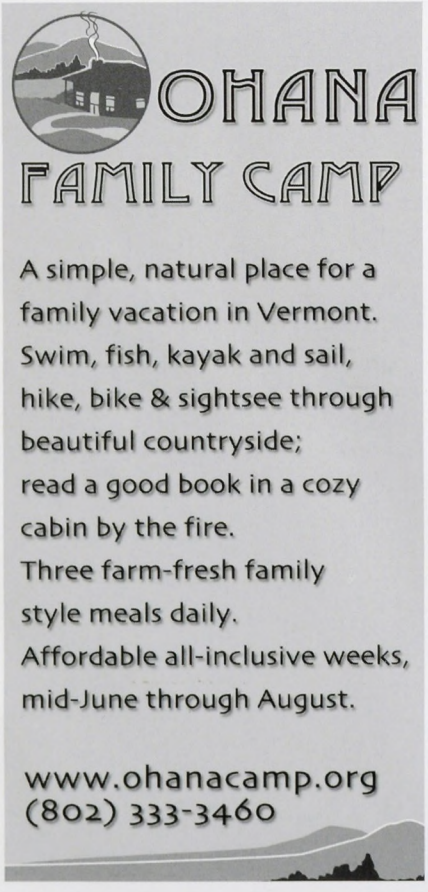
perceived drinking problem at Middlebury, I would applaud his determination. But to use the Baccalaureate address for such a backward-looking, condemnatory message was an inappropriate abuse of tradition. It shed a pall over an otherwise beautiful service, which had moved me to tears with its meaning and significance.

Ted Parker '08
Portsmouth, Rhode Island

This letter was submitted as an abridged version of a letter the writer mailed to President Liebowitz. The writer wanted to emphasize that his objections rested not with content, but with the context of the president's Baccalaureate address.

Well-Learned Lessons

AN EXCELLENT SPRING SEMESTER PROJECT for Mr. Alexander Manshel '09 ("The Caretaker," summer 2008) would be to write a follow-up about Leo Hotte's wild, mountain-man alter ego. That side of Leo, more than a few of us know, is part Manny Ramirez, part Dale Earnhardt, and part Ernest Hemingway. More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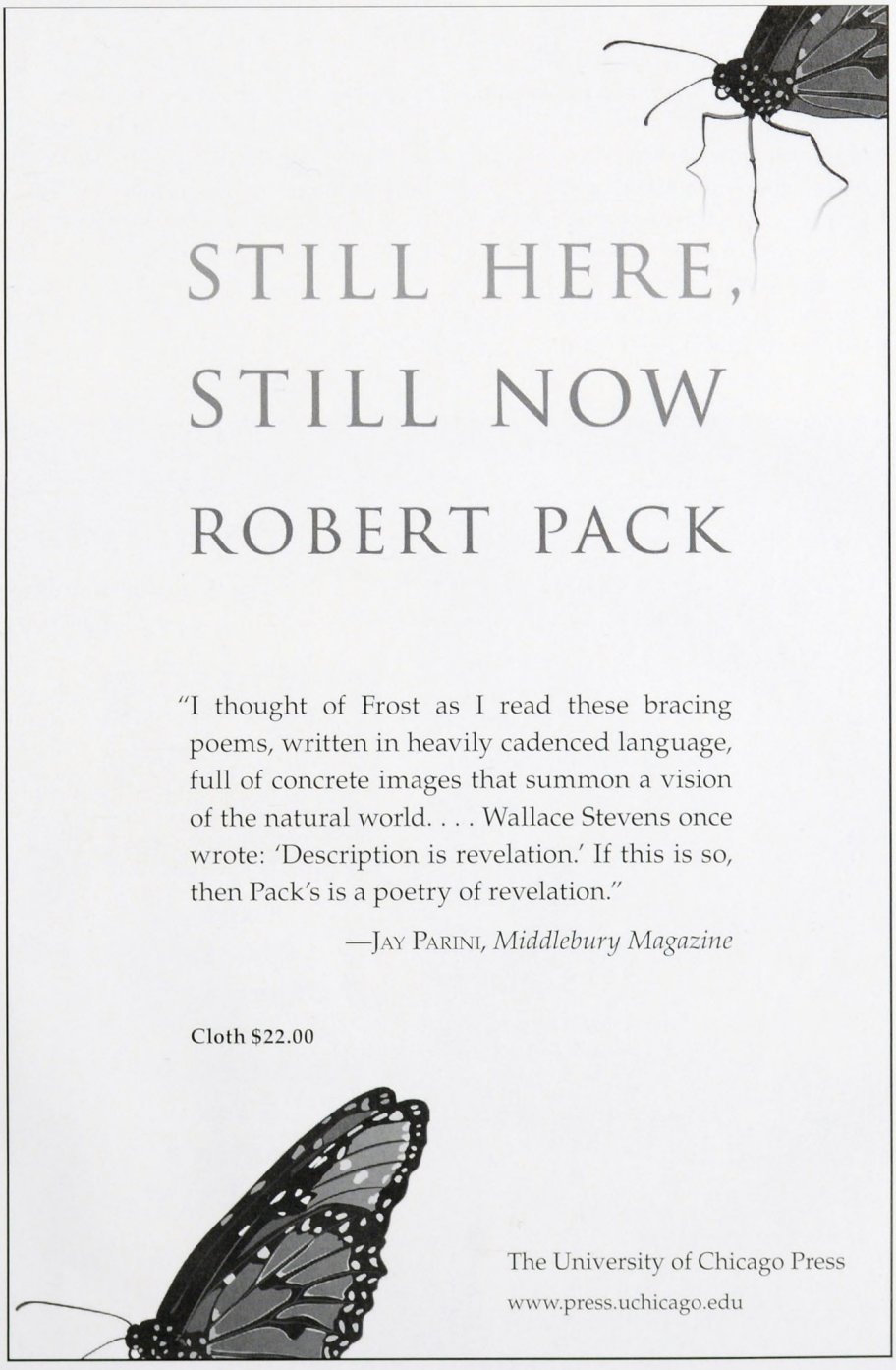
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practically, I benefited from working on Leo's grounds crew for four years. Leo extended my college education into the realm of country living, a "post-graduate course" that has served me well here in my 100-year-old home in rural Maine. Here are 10 things Leo taught me. Some may sound easy to figure out, but Leo taught me tricks of the trade that have served me well while many friends and neighbors have faltered. Leo taught me:

- How to catch a bat indoors and release it outdoors.
- How to wrap a chain around a big, round boulder and drag it off a field with a tractor.
- How to split two pieces of wood at the same time using a hydraulic splitter.
- How to mulch leaves early on a frosty morning when a mower blade will reduce stiff, brittle leaves to powder.
- How to get a tractor unstuck.
- How to stack wood so it can dry properly, and the stack won't collapse or fall on you.
- How to drain pipes and blow the refuse water out (using pressurized air), so the pipes won't freeze and burst.
- How to back up a tractor with a trailer attached to it.
- How to attach a tow rope high up in a tree, pull the rope taut, and cut down the tree, making sure it falls where you want it.
- How to (with patience and the proper tools, including a blow torch if necessary) remove any nut frozen or rusted onto any bolt.

I still fumble through the pitfalls of country living. But, thanks to Leo, my last Middlebury teacher, the local good ol' boys don't line up their pickups out front to watch my next misadventure with chainsaw, tractor, or varmint.

Douglas "Woody" Woodsum '82
Smithfield, Maine

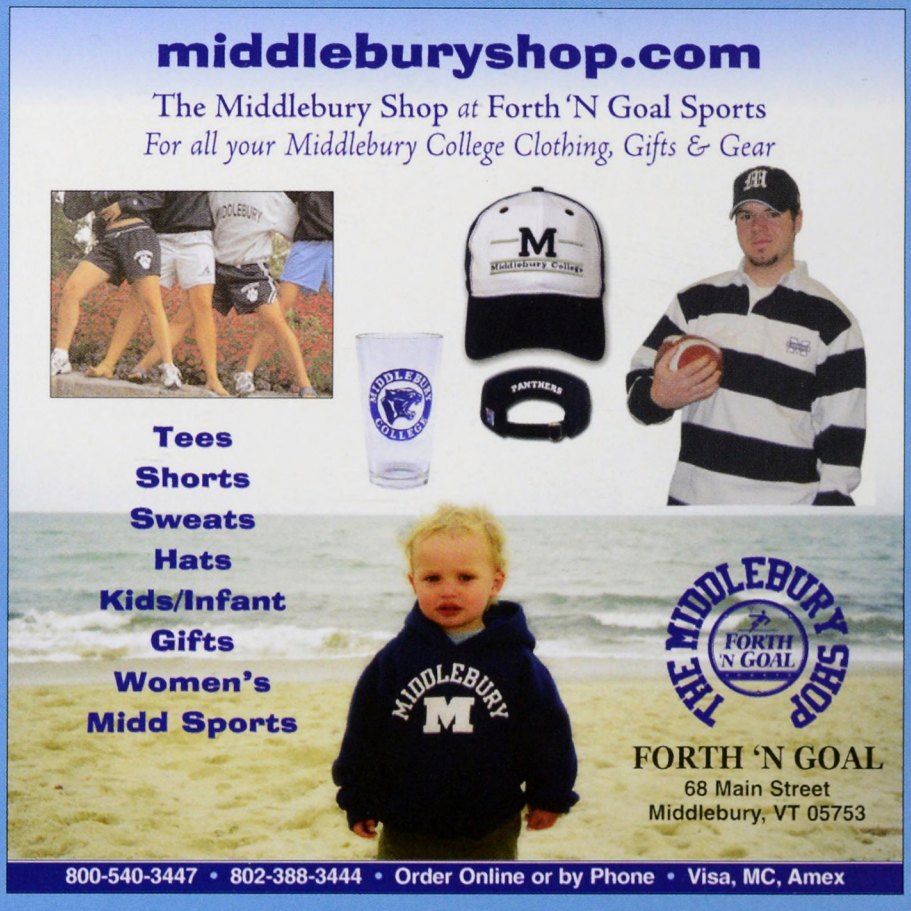
Leave Manifesto Out

I DON'T WANT TO BEAT A DEAD HORSE or use any more precious space of a wonderful magazine, but I want to respond to the comments of Professor Tim Spears and Mr. George Schirtzinger '73 regarding Professor Spears's recommendation of reading the *Communist Manifesto* (Letters, fall 2008).

Initially, I was shocked at Professor Spears's recommendation in the summer 2008 issue ("Read All About It"). Recommending Marx's *Communist Manifesto* with the description of "while outdated" but explaining "how the world works" is absolutely outrageous. However, I feel Mr. Schirtzinger misses the point in his response.

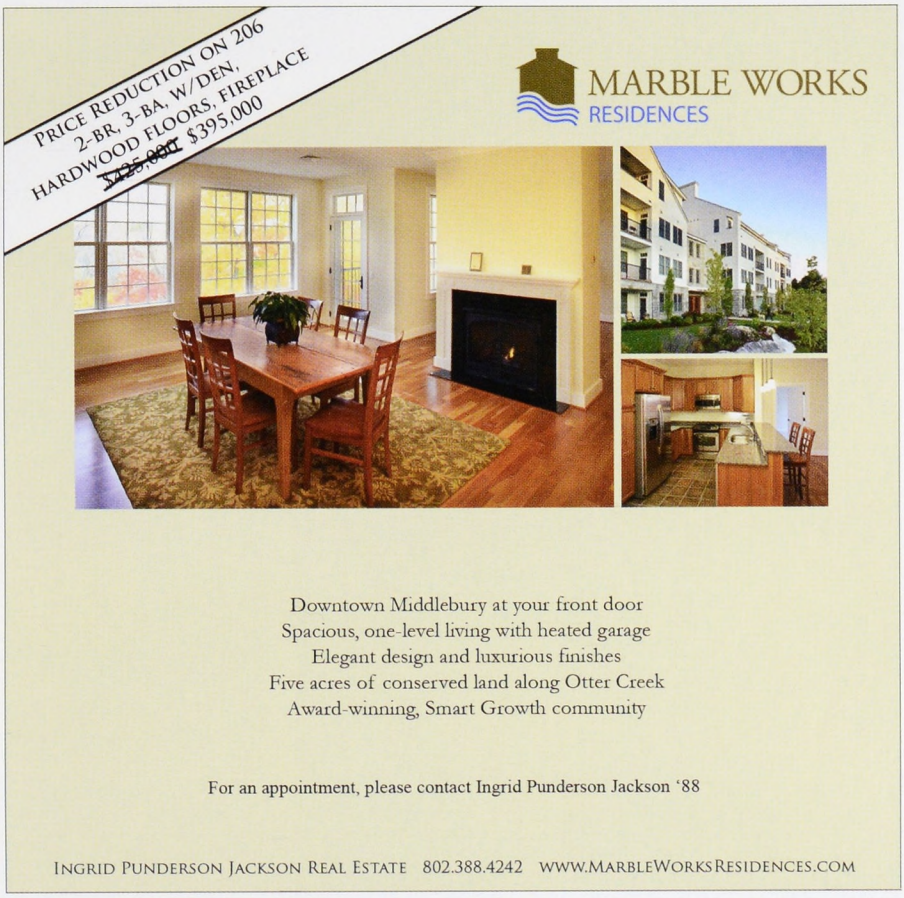
I certainly don't believe Professor Spears was apologizing for totalitarian regimes or supporting communism, but if one is going to recommend a text like the *Communist Manifesto*, a lengthy statement should have been made up front that

downtown Middlebury



explains this rationale and why it's worth the time of an 18-year-old, or anyone, to read Marx. Writing that the text is "outdated" but an explanation "of how the world works" isn't nearly enough and is ridiculous. Using those terms to recommend the *Communist Manifesto* is essentially the same as recommending a creationist textbook with the opinion that "while outdated, it offers an explanation of our origins." That a Middlebury professor recommends the *Communist Manifesto* (or a creationist textbook) using that description should be offensive to anyone reading the statement.

As a freshman at Middlebury, my first-year seminar was the history of economic thought. For all of the reading, from Smith to Schumpeter, we never touched the *Communist Manifesto*. Sure, we learned what Marx wrote about and how the conclusions he came too were absolutely incorrect, but the professor never found it meaningful to have us read the text itself. If economics majors weren't required or encouraged to read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Marx's *Communist Manifesto*, why would anyone? Having 18-year-olds read works that, for whatever their scientific method, come to patently false conclusions is not learning as Professor Spears professes in his defense; it's a gigantic waste of their time. Professor Spears should have perhaps recommended one of his own books, which I'm sure are wonderful, and instead left the recommendation of economic thought to professors Colander, Claudon, or Pardee lest he alienate more alumni and their contributions.

Evan Hoobchaak '03
Chicago, Illinois

Courageous Reporting

WHAT A LOVELY SURPRISE TO DISCOVER that one of my favorite PBS *NewsHour* correspondents, Elizabeth Farnsworth '64, attended Middlebury ("Out of Darkness," summer 2008). I happened to be reading Vincent Bugliosi's *The Prosecution of George W. Bush for Murder* the week PBS aired Ms. Farnsworth's documentary "The Judge and the General," and I found striking similarities between the two.

People may think it a far stretch to compare President Bush to General Pinochet. However, I believe Americans will come to their senses one day, once history has shown the full weight of the egregious actions taken by the Bush administration. I just hope when that time comes, we will have jurists as worthy as Judge Juan Guzmán to carry out that burden and courageous reporters like Ms. Farnsworth to record the story accurately for posterity.

Tobias Maxwell
Cornwall, Ontario

The writer attended the Japanese School in 1984

Larger Than That!

REGARDING THE EDITOR'S COLUMN on the Middlebury Fellows in Environmental Journalism ("Good Fellows," fall 2008): Of course, Russia is larger than China by almost twice.

Leigh Wright '50
Randolph, Vermont

Editors' Note: Indeed it is. We are chagrined and stand corrected.

Thine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

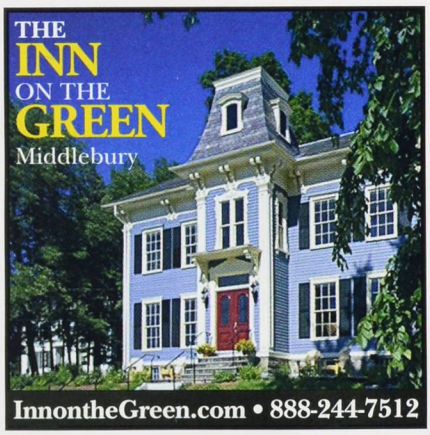
I AM A BIG FAN OF *Middlebury Magazine*, especially the articles written by—or about—alumni. In this regard, I was delightfully surprised to learn that Aaron Woolf, the writer/producer of the documentary *King Corn*, is a Middlebury alumnus, class of 1986.

Aaron was interviewed on Brian Lamb's C-Span television program "Q & A," and during the course of the program, he spoke glowingly of his Middlebury education. It was a fascinating interview, revealing a very interesting man and a very stimulating subject.

Middlebury has so many illustrious alumni, and when I read of them in the magazine, I bask in reflected glory. Here's to hoping that I read more about Aaron in the magazine's pages some day.

Clair Dufault Wilson '50
Wellesley, Massachusetts

Editors' Note: Aaron Woolf '86 is, indeed, on our radar screen. Look for more on him in a future issue of the magazine.



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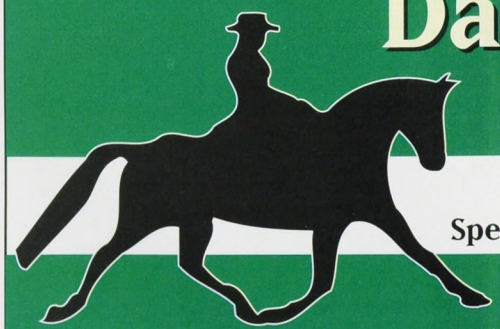

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Curious in Sacramento

WHY IS THE PHOTO OF THE STARR LIBRARY'S main reading room on p.15, done by someone who is not a graduate of the College and not even a resident of the town? This photograph precedes the article "The Economy's Long Arm," which suggests some ways to deal with "...the financial crisis gripping the United States."

Since the photographer resides in Atlanta, did you pay for him to come to Middlebury to photograph said reading room or is he a sort of itinerant photographer going from campus to campus?

The center fold photo on p.24 is also done by an unaffiliated photographer. It is beautiful and, like *Playboy* magazine, the centerfold is a major attraction, so perhaps the cost is justified or maybe the photographer was in town for some other reason.

Gail Bliss Allen '57
Sacramento, California

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Editors' Note: Whenever possible, we strive to use local photographers for campus photo shoots. In the case of the Atlanta photographer Jonathan Hillyer, he was hired by the architect who designed the Axinn Center at Starr Library. In some cases, we do have photographers come to campus from "away," but, as you surmised, a number of photographers do travel from colleges to colleges, campuses to campuses, in search of regular work.

Letters Policy

LETTERS ADDRESSING TOPICS DISCUSSED in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: *Middlebury Magazine*, 5 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or middmag@middlebury.edu.

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CONTRIBUTORS

Aylie Baker '09 ("Portrait of a Vermont Town," p. 18) is a Middlebury Fellow in Narrative Journalism.

Stan Barouh ("Entering Stage Right," p. 51) is a photographer in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Deni Béchard, MA French '07 ("Postcard from Iraq," p. 80) is a Canadian-American novelist.

Bridget Besaw ("Snow Rush," p. 44) is a photographer in San Francisco.

Elisabeth Crean ("Spell Check," p. 46) is a writer in Grand Isle, Vermont.

Nigel Holmes ("The Economy," p. 28) worked at *Time* magazine for 16 years, the last six as graphics director. The author of six books on information graphics, Holmes is the principal in the firm Explanation Graphics in Westport, Connecticut.

Vlad Lodoaba '06 ("Live the Language," p. 49) worked for the communications office as a photographer while a student at Middlebury.

Jeffrey Lott '73 ("In Plain Sight," p. 38) is the senior publications editor at Swarthmore College.

Brian MacDonald ("The Trial of Andrew Strong," p. 34) is a photographer in Chicago.

Richard Mertens ("The Trial of Andrew Strong," p. 34) is a freelance writer in Chicago.

Tad Merrick ("Spell Check," p. 46) is a photographer in Middlebury.

Brett Millier ("The Poetry of Flight," p. 47) is the Reginald L. Cook Professor of English and American Literatures at Middlebury.

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Jerry Swope ("Portrait of a Vermont Town," p. 18) is a photographer in Vermont.

Cameron Walker ("Snow Rush," p. 44) is a freelance writer based in Santa Barbara, California.

Never let truth get in the way of a good story.

Middlebury Magazine
is pleased to announce the 7th Annual
Middlebury Magazine Fiction Contest

Current Middlebury students and all Middlebury alumni (undergraduate or graduate) are invited to submit unpublished manuscripts of 3,000 words or fewer. The first-place selection winner, as chosen by a panel of judges, will receive $300, and the story will be published in the summer magazine.

- Manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, and include a cover sheet with story title, author's name, address, and phone number.
- Submissions may be e-mailed to mjenning@middlebury.edu or mailed to *Middlebury Magazine*, Att: Fiction Contest, 5 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Deadline: April 1, 2009

18 COLLEGE STREET
24 STUDENT SCENE
26 OLD CHAPEL

Uphill Downhill

INAUGURATION DAY Students, faculty, and staff fill the Grille to observe the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Photograph by Brett Simison

Portrait of a Vermont Town

Larry Shepard is a deliberate man. His blue eyes bear the mark of knowing, and as he speaks, he climbs over words as he would a stone wall, with a staid, practiced efficiency. Neither hasty nor assuming, he shuffles through a batch of faded photos with a familiarity that's comforting, conjuring up those people—"these guys" as he calls them—who once lived here.

"Here" is Starksboro, a tiny Vermont village of 1,900 people that sits 20 miles north and just slightly east of Middlebury. And "here" is where 15 of us have come as part of John Elder's fall semester class Portrait of a Vermont Town. We've come to Starksboro to talk to those who live here, people like Larry Shepard. We've come to hear—and preserve—their stories, and we hope that by doing so, we'll be able to help guide them into the future. But first, we must learn about their past.

And stepping into Larry Shepard's house? That's like stepping into history. It's everywhere, really. It leaks through the floorboards and spills out and over the farmstead to pool in the valley below. If you listen closely, you can almost hear the late Robert Young—whose name appears on the road sign just outside Larry's place. You can picture him bending down to place a weathered hand on the kitchen table: "Thou shall not eat like the pigs, wilt thou?"

Like a stain, history runs its inky hands over Starksboro. The old barn behind Larry's house may be in the throes of disrepair, but its foundations have been there for over a hundred years, and a buffalo-skin rug lies folded in a corner. Listen closely enough, and you'll realize each floorboard, stone, and fencepost has an unwritten story.

"He was a big man of understating things," Larry says, gesturing to a photo of his grandfather.

"And…?" coaxes his wife, Sue.

"My grandfather loved to eat apples. As a kid in the old days, you'd get a barrel of apples, and, well, his mother wouldn't let him eat a good apple—you know, that was for company—he had to get one that was kind of soft, and eat those first, because otherwise the apples would all spoil in the barrel. So Robert was always eating spongy apples. As an adult, his kids never went without a fresh apple.

"He had dreams of being a railroad engineer, but his dad died when he was 15, so he had to come home and run the family farm."

Larry's early memories of farming are of distaste, but as he grew up, his connection to the ground deepened, instilling within him a new respect for the farm and Starksboro.

"I often look out at that field, which I know my ancestors mowed by hand. They had such a small amount of free time, their days were so full . . . working on a horse harness in the evening, or carding wool or whatever."

"It's powerful," Larry muses.

"I'm a native Vermonter and have lived in Vermont all my life to this point so far," Larry declares matter-of-factly. "And as Sue would tell ya, it's a hard thing to get me out of Vermont, actually. I'm pretty rooted here."

"Quite," murmurs Sue.

—*Aylie Baker '09*

Students in John Elder's class Portrait of a Vermont Town partnered with the Orton Family Foundation and the Vermont Land Trust for their work in Starksboro. The students recorded more than 60 conversations and plan to present their work at Starksboro's town meeting this spring. For more, see: http://blogs.middlebury.edu/starksborostories/

Photograph by Jerry Swope

Dr. Bee

PRACTITIONERS OF APITHERAPY believe that hive products of honeybees have a medicinal value. Ross Conrad, the author of *Natural Beekeeping*, conducted a winter term workshop on the practice and outlined for us a few of the healing properties inherent in apitherapy.

Faculty Shelf

THIRTEEN BOOKS THAT CHANGED AMERICA, according to Jay Parini:

1. *Of Plymouth Plantation,* William Bradford
2. *The Federalist Papers,* Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay
3. *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin,* Benjamin Franklin
4. *The Journals of Lewis and Clark,* Meriwether Lewis and William Clark
5. *Walden,* Henry David Thoreau
6. *Uncle Tom's Cabin,* Harriet Beecher Stowe
7. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn,* Mark Twain
8. *The Souls of Black Folk,* W.E.B. Du Bois
9. *The Promised Land,* Nicholas Lemann
10. *How to Win Friends and Influence People,* Dale Carnegie
11. *The Common Sense Book on Baby and Child Care,* Benjamin Spock. M.D.
12. *On the Road,* Jack Kerouac
13. *The Feminine Mystique,* Betty Friedan

Jay Parini is the D. E. Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing at Middlebury. His book Promised Land: Thirteen Books That Changed America *was published in 2008.*

ILLUSTRATION BY ADRIENNE ILLICK

Observed

■ **National Public Radio's "Day to Day" program** paid a visit to campus in November to cover the second annual College Quidditch World Cup. Seniors Alex Benepe '09 and Alexander Manshel '09 were featured on the program. Benepe and Manshel founded Quidditch for the Earth-bound set several years ago, and since then the sport has taken off like gangbusters. This year, 12 teams, representing colleges and universities from across the U.S. and Canada, attended the Quidditch World Cup. ■ **Tierno Monénembo, a member of the French School faculty,** was awarded the 2008 Prix Renaudot literary prize, an honor bestowed on the author of the "novel of the year." The book, *Le Roi de Kahel,* bested the most recent work of Elie Wiesel. ■ **The Green Chicken has returned home** to roost. A team of 16 Panther math whizzes defeated the Williams squad in the annual mathematics contest between the two schools. As winners, the Midd 16 took home the avocado-green, chicken-shaped casserole dish that was once a wedding gift from Middlebury computer science professor Bob Martin to his sister. She re-gifted the tureen to Martin as a housewarming present when he moved to Vermont in the '70s; it's traveled up and down Route 7 ever since.

continued

History Confronted

Kara Walker's *Exodus of Confederates from Atlanta* will be part of a Museum of Art exhibit examining history and race. "Confronting History: Contemporary Artists Envision the Past" opens February 13. The image comes from Walker's portfolio *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War (Annotated).*

Midd on Facebook Group

Middlebury Synergy 92 members
Synergy is a group of students interested in fostering awareness and communication, civic engagement, volunteerism, and collaboration at Middlebury College and in our community.

Overheard at Middlebury 178 members
Whether you're in class, at parties, in the dorm, or walking around campus, sometimes you can hear the craziest stuff at Middlebury. Post some of your favorite quotes so we can all laugh.

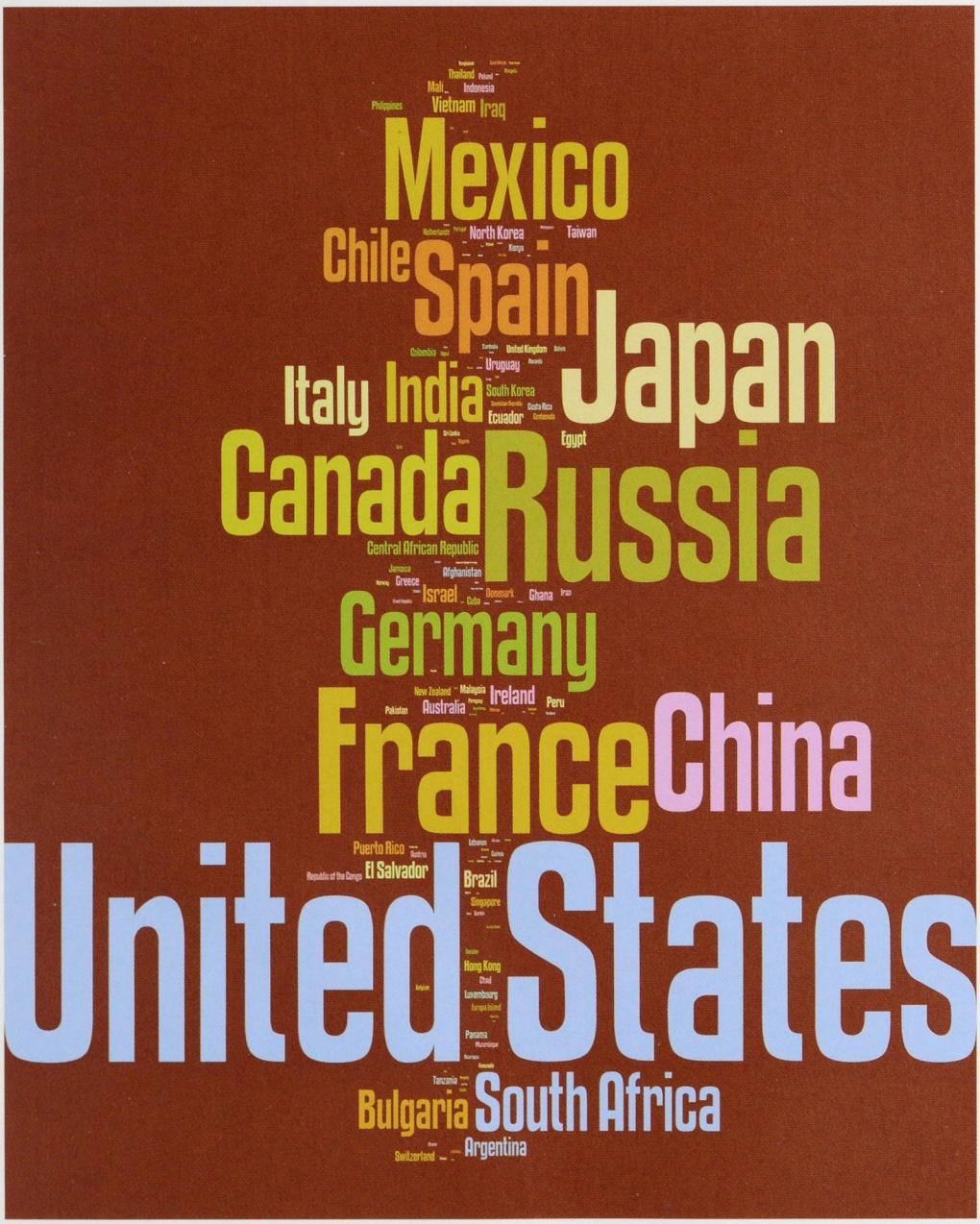
Middlebury College in Spain 179 members
La red de Middlebury College en España

Middlebury Quidditch 247 members
All players must run carrying a broom between their legs at all times. If they ever do not have the broom between their legs, then they can't fly and obviously cannot participate.

Quote/Unquote

"I didn't think I'd be around to see it."

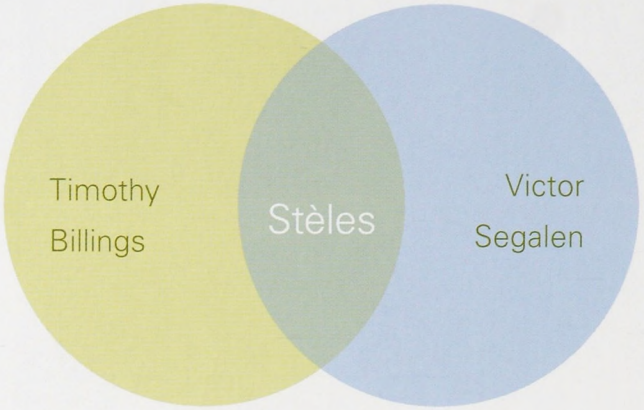
—Francois Clemmons, speaking to the *Middlebury Campus* about the inauguration of an African-American president.



Global Web Because of Middlebury's renowned Language Schools and international studies program, it shouldn't come as much of a surprise that the names of more than 250 countries and territories appear on the College's Web site. Above, a Wordle graphic depicting all 254 countries and territories found on www.middlebury.edu. The country names are weighted according to number of appearances, ranging from the U.S. (11,700) to Wallis and Futuna Islands (9).

■ **Jeff Cloutier '09** was one of 40 American students to win a prestigious Marshall Scholarship from the British government for graduate study in the United Kingdom. A molecular biology and biochem major, Cloutier will be studying the regulation of meiotic silencing of unsynapsed chromatin at University College London. ■ **The Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest** was granted the highest possible level of certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design by the United States Green Building Council. The Franklin Center is only the seventh building in the U.S.—and the first in Vermont—to be granted LEED platinum status. ■ **Four Middlebury faculty members were promoted to associate professor** without limit of tenure. The Board of Trustees approved promotions for Jason Arndt (psychology), Louisa Burnham (history), Jessica Holmes (economics), and Christian Keathley (film and media culture). ■ **The acclaimed French pianist Cedric Tiberghien** performed music by Chopin, Bartók, and Brahms at the Mahaney Center for the Arts in November. Tiberghien's playing of Brahms's Hungarian Dances was the highlight of the evening. ■ **John Elder was named Vermont Professor** of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

Confluence Timothy Billings, an associate professor of English and American literatures, won the Modern Language Association's 2008 Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for Translation of a Literary Work for his translation of Segalen's *Stèles*.



Baseball History

After Jackie Robinson broke Major League Baseball's racial barrier in 1947, he always credited a number of African Americans who challenged the segregation of the sport in prior years. One of those gentlemen was William Clarence Matthews, a Harvard-educated attorney who played professionally in Vermont's "outlaw" Northern League and was rumored to be under consideration for a call-up to the Boston Braves in 1905.

Karl Lindholm, an assistant professor of American studies at Middlebury, is one of Matthews's biographers. He recently penned an essay that investigated the rumor that Matthews was poised to break baseball's color barrier in 1905. The piece, "Rumors and Facts: William Clarence Matthews's 1905 Challenge to Major League Baseball's Color Barrier," appeared in the fall issue of *Nine: A Journal of Baseball History and Culture*. Below, a comparison of Matthews and Robinson.

	William Clarence Matthews	Jackie Robinson
Born	1876	January 31, 1919
Birthplace	Selma, Alabama	Cairo, Georgia
College	Harvard University, Class of 1905	UCLA
Professional	Vermont Northern League, 1905	Major League Baseball, Brooklyn Dodgers, 1947–1956
Position	Shortstop	Second baseman
Post-baseball career	Attorney	Business Executive
Service to country	Assistant U.S. Attorney General, Coolidge administration	Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army
Died	1928	October 24, 1972

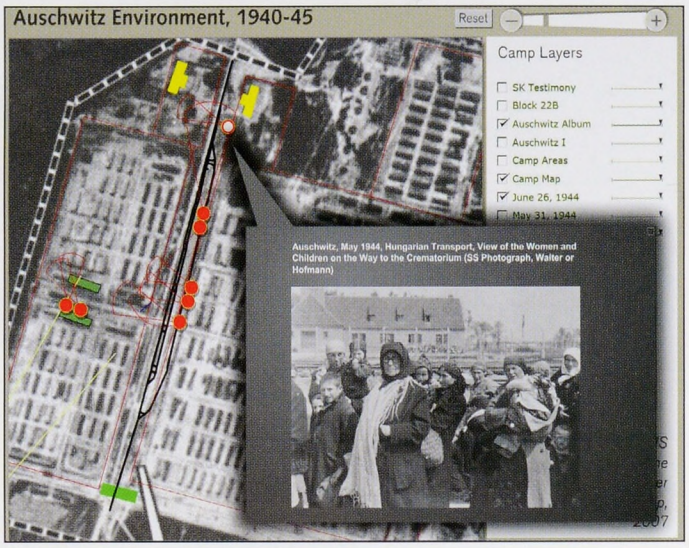
Bookshelf

"Kirsten Hoving's *Joseph Cornell and Astronomy* illuminates the art of Cornell in a remarkable new way. Combining her long-term grounding in Cornell's art and archives with her thorough knowledge of the popular astronomy that fascinated the artist, Hoving produces highly insightful readings of his works that ring true. Hoving's book is a major step in the process of recovering the popular science that surrounded 20th-century artists and has been missing from the history of art for far too long."
—Linda Dalrymple Henderson, professor of art history at the University of Texas. Hoving is the Charles A. Dana Professor of History of Art and Architecture at Middlebury.

■

"In homage to a composer seen to speak subjectively in his music, Schubert allows Beethoven to speak one last time from beyond the grave. Music that once had signaled the breaking of earthly bonds now, a year after Beethoven's death, assumes a calm nobility; the heroic struggle is in the past. The apotheosis is not instantaneous, however; rather, the passage from terrestrial to celestial existence is fraught with tense echoes of the *Eroica*'s funeral march. Ultimately, though, in the final stanza the stars are reached, and Schubert ends his song with a vision of Beethoven finding in heavenly realms what Schubert no doubt hoped to find there himself: the love that in life had eluded him."
—An excerpt from Larry Hamberlin's essay "The Beethoven Allusions in Auf dem Strom *(D. 914)," which appeared in* The Unknown Schubert.

Holocaust Associate Professor of Geography Anne Knowles is working with a team of Middlebury students to develop a historical Geographic Information System of concentration camps during the Holocaust. Knowles received a two-year grant from the National Science Foundation to fund the project.

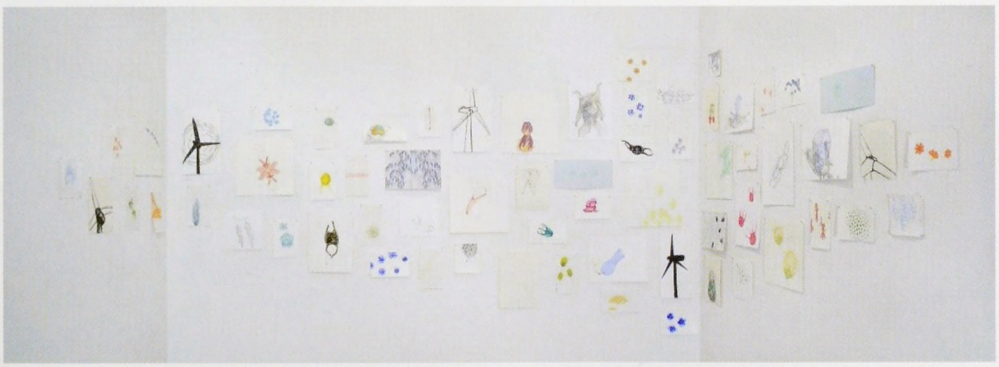


Economics of Football

When do NFL quarterbacks hit their prime playing years? At age 31, according to a paper written by Professor of Economics Paul Sommers and Stefan Hrdina '07. What does that mean for today's QBs? Here's a sampling:

Pre Prime	Prime	Past Prime
Ben Roethlisberger, Pittsburgh Steelers, 26	Tom Brady, New England Patriots, 31	Peyton Manning, Indianapolis Colts, 32
Eli Manning, New York Giants, 27	Donovan McNabb, Philadelphia Eagles, 31	Jake Delhomme, Carolina Panthers, 33

And yes, that means that Tom Brady spent his prime year, 2008, on the injured reserve list. The article "When Do NFL Quarterbacks Pass Their Prime" appeared in the *Journal of Recreational Mathematics*, to which Paul Sommers is a frequent contributor. Stefan Hrdina '07 was a running back at Middlebury.



Exhibition "Hedya Klein's drawings are delicate and intimate. Painted in gouache, inks, and acrylics on paper, they have a small scale that could indicate preciousness or fragility. But the focus on biological (both floral and faunal) processes speaks to the strengths and persistence of the basic impulse for life. Her details, though simple, are so numerous and complete they make excellent building blocks for larger more complex forms." *—Shawn Hill, in a brochure for "Still a Life," Hedya Klein's first New York solo exhibition, which ran, from October 10 to November 9, at the Kentler International Drawing Space in Brooklyn, New York. Klein is an assistant professor of studio art at Middlebury.*

Trucking

Jeffrey Carpenter, an associate professor of economics, recently co-authored a chapter in a book titled *The Analysis of Firms and Employees* that examined employee turnover at a trucking company. We recently quizzed Carpenter about his team's findings.

MM: In examining the causes for employee turnover within a specific industry, why did you settle on a trucking company?
JC: Trucking is of obvious importance to the economy, and turnover in this segment of the industry is unbelievably high (approaching 120 percent per year—i.e., more people leave each year than you hire).

MM: You collected data by two means: traditional survey instruments and behavioral economics experiments. Why was this significant?
JC: The firm approached us to see if we could come up with a nonstandard analysis of the problem because standard tools could not predict this level of turnover. Our "comparative advantage" as behavioral economists is to run experiments to see if psychological factors add to the explanation.

MM: And what did you learn? What was the key takeaway from the study?
JC: In this case, the behavioral "value added" was huge. We found that once you control for all the standard predictors (which are mostly demographics), cognitive ability, attitudes towards risk, time preferences, and the ability to think strategically were strong predictors of turnover. In some cases the behavioral factors were much stronger predictors than traditional explanations.

Dish Network

One group's fight to combat irresponsibility—and save the College some money, in the process.

By Matt Jennings

This story begins with a confession: Not that long ago, folks from this magazine removed a dish from the College's dining facilities and took it to a photography studio in town, where the orange-colored plate was involved in a photo shoot. Now, it must be noted that we did so with the permission of dining services, and said dish was promptly returned to the College when the photo shoot was over. So, this confession is offered in the spirit of full disclosure, but it's also used to illustrate a rather troubling point: dishes (and bowls and cups) are walking away from College dining halls at an alarming rate—and few are being returned. Molley Kaiyoorawongs '09 hopes to change all that.

If conducting a campaign to combat the disappearance of dining hall dishes appears to be an odd task to take on during one's senior year of college, then one needs to know more about Kaiyoorawongs—and the problem at hand.

According to Matthew Biette, Middlebury's director of dining services, the College budgets $50,000 annually to replace broken or "lost" dishes. In addition, roughly $25,000 worth of dishes are recovered by Middlebury's Recycling Center each year. "That's $75,000 worth of dishes walking right out of dining halls each year, and that's not ok," Kaiyoorawongs says matter-of-factly. She's sitting in the library's Wilson Cafe, taking a quick break from writing a paper on a particularly chilly December day. As she talks, one can't help but wonder if she's keeping a wary eye on the patrons around her, on the lookout for a potential dish disappearance.

When she's asked if she's doing exactly that, she laughs. "No, I'm not—nor do I want to be—Big Brother. What I do want is for people to become more accountable."

Molley Kaiyoorawongs was studying abroad in Italy last year when she read in the online edition of the *Middlebury Campus* that dining services had announced its plans to drastically scale back its popular midnight breakfast offering during exam week. The undertaking had become prohibitively expensive, Matthew Biette explained in an all-campus e-mail, due in large part to the number of plates, cups, and silverware leaking out into the dark of night. Kaiyoorawongs thought it was a shame, but she understood. The previous year, she had served on the College's comprehensive fee committee, and she knew that replacing lost dishes was a financial concern. But what really bothered her while

SAVE THE PLATE
Molley Kaiyoorawongs launched her china and cutlery campaign with a greater goal in mind—to make people act more responsibly.

Photograph by Brett Simison

following the dining hall brouhaha from 4,000 miles away was the criticism Biette was taking from students for performing what ultimately was his fiscal responsibility. "I remember thinking that it was misguided and misdirected," she says, "and I made a note to myself that I should look into this when I got back.

"Plus," she continues, with a laugh, "being in Italy where things are so bureaucratic that it's virtually impossible to affect

change on *anything*, I was hungry to really do something."

When she returned in the fall, she noticed that "people were walking out of Atwater and Ross with cups and plates" with what appeared to be greater frequency; Biette confirmed this. "He told me that replacement costs had increased more than 10 percent," Kaiyoorawongs says.

So she set up meetings with whomever would listen. She talked to Biette. She went on a fact-finding mission with the custodial services staff. (Dishes are most often found in classrooms, bathrooms, and suites, yet these are the dishes that are recovered and do not add to the replacement tally. "I guess some people think that if you leave a dish in a bathroom sink or your suite sink, then you've returned it," Kaiyoorawongs says sarcastically.) In her role as an RA, she approached other residence hall advisers. She e-mailed the College's Community Council and brought her campaign message to a meeting of the Student Government Association. It took awhile to get some traction (for instance, she says the SGA told her that they would not endorse the imposition of fines on fellow students), but gradually she noticed subtle changes.

"People started coming up to me and saying, 'This is a great idea, how can I help?' Of course, there have been others who say, 'Why bother?' But there has been more of the former, more enthusiasm than pessimism," she says. (To that end, she points out that a month after she first spoke before the SGA, they passed a measure to encourage dining services to hire door monitors.)

Kaiyoorawongs also launched a group on Facebook—"Students against the disappearance of dining hall dishes"—which, quite frankly, is how she came to the magazine's attention. The group has nearly 50 members and counting, and while this number represents a fraction of the people who have joined, say, the group "Middlebury Quidditch," it's not inconsequential, either. Kaiyoorawongs has used the site to post updates on the campaign's progress ("Had lunch with Matt Biette to brainstorm solutions"; "met with a reporter from the *Campus*") and to debate such issues as whether or not the removal of dishes should be termed "theft." And, she says, it keeps the issue on people's consciousness.

> **"I guess some people think that if you leave a dish in a bathroom sink or a suite sink, then you've returned it."**

The Facebook group's logo is a picture of a street sign that bears the word "integrity," and while such an image could smack of motivational poster cheesiness, it, well, it doesn't. It's apt.

"Yes, there is a real fiscal component to this," Kaiyoorawongs says, "and, because of that, it has helped us," especially in this troubled economic climate. But what this is really all about, she says, "big picture, is an effort to get people to be more responsible, to look beyond themselves and to be a part of the greater community."

"[Molley Kaiyoorawongs] is standing up for her community by trying to create a movement of students who do something simple: respect one another," Ryan Kellet '09 wrote on the popular blog, Middblog. "Molley takes the example of not returning dining hall dishes and extrapolates out to talk about respect on campus. But where are more students like her?"

They're out there, Kaiyoorawongs says. They're the 50 or so members of "Students against the disappearance of dining hall dishes"; they're the folks who have taken it upon themselves to hunt down wayward plates and bring them back to their rightful places; they're the monitors who politely remind you that that coffee cup really needs to stay in the dining hall; and they are the people, Kaiyoorawongs says, who are quietly going about their daily routines, being mindful of the people around them.

"I've seen a difference," she says. "For instance, I didn't have my first 'rude' cleanup until the seventh week of school." She's talking about her work shift at the Grille, where, in the past, a ten-minute cleanup of the dining area before closing became a 30- or 40-minute chore because so many people had failed to bus their area or otherwise left a big mess.

"But I'm not naïve," she adds, holding up a printout of a *Campus* article from 2001; it bears the headline "Disappearing Cups Strain Dining Services Budget." She says: "It's been a problem for at least seven years. We're not going to stop it overnight. But we *can* affect change."

Preserving our Relevance in a Globalized, Interconnected World

By President Ronald D. Liebowitz

In June of 2005, the College's Board of Trustees voted to approve an affiliation with the Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS), a graduate institution of 750 students offering professional graduate degrees in international policy studies, international business, linguistics, and translation/interpretation, among others.

Following almost three years of our affiliation with MIIS, we now are preparing to integrate the Institute fully into the College. On June 30, 2010, the Monterey Institute will become a legal part of the College. It will no longer operate under an independent California nonprofit license, but under our own Vermont license, and Middlebury will own the Institute's assets and liabilities. As we take this next step, I would like to share my perspective on and enthusiasm for this exciting initiative.

The rationale for pursuing this relationship has only gotten stronger since the affiliation began three years ago. In addition to providing the College with a more visible and important presence on the West Coast, the relationship with Monterey will also bring Middlebury to the Pacific Rim, provide greater access to Asia and Asian universities, enhance undergraduate recruiting in strategic regions, and expand the curricular and cocurricular opportunities for our students at a most propitious time. Monterey has strong ties to Asia, especially in Japan, Korea, and China, and its established networks there will help our students, alumni, and faculty in ways our current Middlebury network, as strong as it is, cannot.

It is Middlebury's and Monterey's shared values in international education, however, that represent the greatest potential in the relationship. Both institutions believe that linguistic and cultural competency is foundational to one's effective engagement around the world. Middlebury undergraduates who are interested in international studies, environmental studies, international business, linguistics, and non-proliferation studies, among other subjects, will be able to visit Monterey to take advantage of a host of opportunities ranging from a winter term or summer internship to a semester or year of study in a relevant, internationally oriented professional program.

Programs at Monterey can augment our own curricular offerings, and allow our students to build meaningful relationships with students, faculty, and alumni from MIIS. We also envision the creation of joint-degree programs that will combine what is best about a liberal arts education—the exposure to and engagement in a broad range of disciplines and perspectives—with the focus and specialization of professional graduate programs. A "4+1" BA/MA program in language study, international and environmental policy studies, and/or international business will appeal to many liberal arts students and will provide them with a "leg up" following graduation as they prepare to meet a number of global challenges.

While all these opportunities await our 2,350 undergraduate students, the overall benefits of the Monterey initiative to the College, and how we should assess its value and success, are hardly limited to our undergraduate student population. They will redound significantly to many of our "other" students—the 1,360 who attend the College's 10 internationally renowned intensive summer Language Schools, the hundreds from other colleges and universities in the U.S. who join our own undergraduates to study at the 30 sites within our 8 Schools Abroad, and the 500 who matriculate each summer at our Bread Loaf School of English, the largest graduate program in English literature in the U.S. Virtually all of these students are interested in approaching their education from an international perspective. These students, too, will find at Monterey workshops, internships, and academic programs that will expand their knowledge of other cultures within the contexts of their particular social, economic, and political institutions. In addition,

Photograph by Dennis Curran

Monterey's global network of individuals and institutions will offer these students significant contacts around the world—contacts who can serve as mentors and advisers, especially following graduation.

As we talk about our non-baccalaureate programs and how we might use them to the advantage of our students and the College overall, it is important to emphasize the uniqueness and benefits of Middlebury's educational model—a model that will allow us to preserve and enrich our undergraduate program on the Vermont campus, while developing an institution that will best meet the needs of students in the 21st century. It is a model that should not be confused with a university. Our predecessors were intentional in how they added non-baccalaureate programs, beginning in 1915 with the establishment of the German School, and we continue that approach as we seek to establish Middlebury as the liberal arts college for the 21st century.

In keeping with tradition, programs at Monterey will complement and enrich the College's internationally oriented academic programs, yet they will neither interfere with nor diminish the undergraduate-focused educational environment on our Vermont campus. For almost 100 years, Middlebury has offered a selective number of non-baccalaureate programs that now award, on average, 250 graduate degrees each year. All of these programs operate during the summer months when the undergraduate program is not in session or at distant sites away from the College during the regular academic year. This combination of scheduling and location preserves our intensive focus on undergraduate education on the Vermont campus from September to May.

The Middlebury model differs markedly from the traditional university model, where the undergraduate program subsidizes graduate programs, and where undergraduate students compete with graduate students for the faculty's attention, and most often lose. At the same time, through the development of selective programs, Middlebury undergraduates, no matter their major, will have access to a set of academic programs and research centers that will complement their experiences at Middlebury and best prepare them for leadership and engagement in an ever-increasing competitive and complex world. No other liberal arts college can make that claim.

Financially, MIIS, like all of the College's other non-baccalaureate programs, supports itself. This past year, per our 2008 financial audit, not only did the Institute achieve this goal, it actually contributed positively to the College's total net assets. To date, $12.1 million has been committed to Monterey by donors who made restricted contributions to Middlebury specifically for the Monterey affiliation. These donors were inspired by the foresightedness of the College's larger vision and the way it will position Middlebury to build on its recognized strengths to the benefit of the entire institution.

In fact, a major benefit of the affiliation has already been realized in the area of fund-raising. In addition to the aforementioned $12.1 million donated in support of the Monterey affiliation, we have received two gifts of $10 million, plus many other significant gifts (greater than $100,000) to strengthen the College's array of international programs. These donors have told me that their enthusiasm for the many ways in which the Monterey graduate curriculum enhances Middlebury's traditional strengths played a major role in their decision to support the College.

As we find ourselves in the midst of a severe economic downturn, it would be easy to suggest we pull back from pursuing our vision for establishing Middlebury as the first global liberal arts college. Such a response would be shortsighted. There were times in the College's history when past presidents were encouraged to sell the Bread Loaf mountain campus, which would have led to the closure of the School of English, or to close the Language Schools because of political or financial crises created by national or world events. Neither, of course, happened, and the College is much stronger today for the presence of these programs, which, in the words of Carnegie Corporation President Vartan Gregorian, have become "national treasures."

...the College's international orientation, its recognized strengths in global and environmental education, and its renowned non-baccalaureate and graduate programs, will ensure Middlebury's relevance in the world of higher education....

Now more than ever, the College's international orientation, its recognized strengths in global and environmental education, and its and renowned non-baccalaureate and graduate programs, will ensure Middlebury's relevance in the world of higher education 10, 15, 20 years from now. As president, one of my important responsibilities is to protect the long-term well-being of our institution, while respecting and retaining its core values and character. This initiative, and the larger vision of which it is part, represents our best chance for the College to be a leader among academic institutions and to ensure its relevance and importance in this increasingly globalized, interconnected world.

Ron Liebowitz can be reached at officeofthepresident@middlebury.edu

If there has been one dominating topic—from pole to pole, continent to continent, boardrooms to living rooms—during the past six months it has been the Economy, with a capital E. $ Virtually every global citizen has been touched in some way, shape, or form by an economic climate that's been described variously as depressed, faltering, struggling, and challenging. $ We have been introduced to new phrases—sub-prime lending, market contagion—that are by now painfully familiar. $ And we have all looked inward, personally and professionally, as we've steeled ourselves to meet the ever-shifting challenges of the day. $ As Middlebury President Ronald D. Liebowitz said last fall ("The Economy's Long Arm," fall 2008), the College is not immune to the forces affecting greater national and global economies; but we address these challenges from a position of strength. $ In the following pages, we present an interview with Middlebury's Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer Patrick Norton, who describes in great detail the fiscal steps the institution has made and the known challenges that lie ahead. $ We also offer information graphics that explain both the workings of the College's endowment and a fiscal year-in-the-life of the College. $ And, finally, we tap some of our own experts to explain what precipitated this global financial climate, what it will take us, as citizens, to pull out of it, and what it all means to you, the reader.

The Economy

Middlebury Magazine: Looking back to the end of summer and early fall, what were some of the early indicators emanating from Wall Street and elsewhere that led you to think, Hey, we have a very serious situation here?

Patrick Norton: Two indicators led us to think that we were heading into rough waters.

First, the credit markets seized up. We had seen the credit markets act violently in the auction rate security market last winter as a result of the downgrading of bond insurers—and the College refinanced out of that market to the variable-rate demand-bond market. However, what we were seeing this fall in the credit markets was an unprecedented flight to quality (Treasuries), whereby holders of debt, including tax exempt debt, were only buying this variable-rate debt at very high rates, thus driving up the College's annual debt service.

Second, our endowment was down -1 percent for the 12 months ending June 30, 2008 (performance was sub-par from January '08 through June '08). So based on what we were seeing, we knew we had to adjust our expectations going forward. And then of course, the fall performance hit, and we were down nearly 15 percent for the first four months of the current fiscal year, prompting us to accelerate planning to address the projected annual deficits.

MM: What were some of the College's first moves in response to the global economic slowdown?

PN: We performed financial modeling to determine the probable deficit scenarios with a variety of assumptions, including reduced endowment performance and gift flow to the College. We performed very detailed cash-flow projections to ensure that the College had enough liquidity to meet its short-term obligations and added an additional line of credit as an insurance policy. We evaluated our $270 million debt portfolio and determined that we would have to ride out the higher interest costs on our $55 million of variable-rate demand bonds, which has a weekly reset on its interest rate, until such time as the credit markets, namely buyers of tax-exempt debt, return to normal (and it has).

The College halted new construction, slowed down the pace of implementing the strategic plan, instituted a hiring freeze on all but the most essential staff positions, reduced travel for College business, and limited significantly the use of outside consultants and contractors. In addition, the Budget Oversight Committee (BOC) was created. The BOC, which is comprised of students, faculty, and staff, reviews budget savings recommendations. The BOC discusses and then forwards to the president those recommendations it believes the College should implement.

Finally, the president, through a series of memos and presentations to the community, wanted the process to be as transparent as possible.

MM: Obviously, the financial landscape was shifting daily, requiring next steps by the College sooner rather than later. Could you describe what these next steps were?

PN: The College instituted a 5 percent reduction in discretionary spending and continues to hold the line on replacing open positions.

MM: You describe steps that we've taken, including a hiring freeze and budget cuts. Is there anything that is absolutely "off the table"?

PN: Nothing is absolutely off the table because an institution never wants to tie its hands in the event economic events become even more severe. However, with that said, as has been discussed, moving away from need-blind admissions and doing layoffs would be the last levers to pull.

MM: In letters to the community, President Liebowitz has talked about how Middlebury is addressing these economic problems from a "position of strength," but that we are "not immune" to market forces. What places us in a position of strength? And what are the forces that leave us vulnerable?

PN: What places us in a position of strength is that: (1) our institutional reputation is excellent, (2) admission applications and selectivity are at record levels, and (3) fund-raising has reached all-time highs. The forces that leave us vulnerable are: (1) a declining stock market, which will reduce the level of support from operating budget, and (2) a prolonged economic slowdown will surely have an impact on charitable giving to the College. Thus, two of the College's three main sources of revenue are declining and the third major source of revenue, the comprehensive fee, cannot be increased to the level necessary to cover our expected revenue shortfalls.

MM: In October, there was an issue with the Commonfund, which is used by more than 900 colleges and universities, including Middlebury, to invest cash for short-term needs. Can you explain what the issue was and how it affected the College?

PN: Middlebury is one of some 900 colleges and universities that invested cash in the Commonfund Short Term Fund. The fund manages almost $10 billion. Schools use the fund for short-term investments of cash, such as fall and spring semester tuition payments. On September 29, Wachovia Bank resigned as the fund's trustee and terminated the fund. Cash from the fund will be distributed in an equitable and orderly fashion over the next 6–12 months. Fortunately, we had less than 1 percent of our endowment invested in the Commonfund (approximately $8 million). The College expects to receive full value plus interest once the orderly liquidation has been completed, and views the temporary delay in releasing assets as an inconvenience. To date the College has received 70 percent of the funds, leaving approximately $3 million remaining to be distributed.

MM: There have been a number of stories in the media about college and university endowments taking big hits—Harvard's plummeted 20+ percent, resulting in a loss of around $8 billion; Amherst reported a loss of about 25 percent of it's nearly $2

billion endowment between July and December. What's been the case at Middlebury?

PN: The College was down 18.7 percent between July and December, and for the month of December we were down 0.6 percent. Therefore, for the six months ended December 31, 2008, Middlebury's endowment was down 19.3 percent; but that is before all markdowns on our investments in private partnerships, which could add up to an additional 8 percent in negative return. A negative return of 25 to 30 percent on the endowment is possible for fiscal year 2009 (July 1, 2008–June 30, 2009) and is in line with Moody's outlook on endowment performance for college endowments for this fiscal year.

MM: I think there is a lot of confusion out there about what college and university endowments actually are. We don't have $700 million just sitting in an account somewhere that we can draw on at any time, right? Can you explain how an endowment works and why we can't just "withdraw" money to solve our financial issues?

PN: An endowment is a permanent fund that helps to ensure an institution's financial stability, flexibility, and autonomy. An endowment influences long-range planning because decisions that require enduring commitments—faculty positions that will span years or decades, for example—can be financed.

Much of the College's endowed funds are restricted for a particular purpose such as faculty salaries and financial aid, and therefore those restricted endowments legally cannot be used for unrestricted purposes. Only the total return (income/dividends and gains) on the endowment subject to the college's spending rule may be spent. The principal of the endowment must be maintained in perpetuity, and therefore cannot simply be withdrawn to solve financial issues.

The College's spending rule articulates the amount of the total return that may be consumed in a given year. Set by the Trustees, the College may spend 5 percent of the average market value of the endowment over the previous 12 quarters. A 5 percent spend rate is a prudent rate used by many colleges and universities, and incidentally is the minimum spend rate allowed for private foundations as mandated by the Internal Revenue Service.

It is very important that we stay disciplined and adhere to the College's spending rule of 5 percent of the average market value of the endowment. To exceed the 5 percent rule (spending more of the total return) and simply withdrawing the money to solve our financial issues would not only force the institution to sell investments under distressed conditions, further reducing the value of the endowment (and in fact multiplying the negative effects as we would be selling at significantly reduced prices), but it would violate the basic principles of the endowment and that is to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment and to provide for intergenerational equity to future generations of Middlebury students. (For more on the endowment, see graphic on facing page.)

MM: In presentations to faculty, staff, and students, you and President Liebowitz have talked extensively and transparently about the global economic situation, how it affects the College, and what the challenges are. One area you've discussed is the College's infrastructure and debt. Can you explain what our debt situation is and what it means to our fiscal health? And can you address how having a "youthful" infrastructure can be seen as a comparative advantage in the years ahead?

PN: As of today, the College has $270 million of tax-exempt long-term debt, debt that the College took on to build out the infrastructure of the campus. The weighted average cost of capital on the $270 million is 4.4 percent, and the average weighted maturity on the debt is 22 years. So, simply put, when you compare the rate that a 20-year tax-exempt bond would go for today at 5.5 percent, our 4.4 percent looks attractively priced. We are contractually obligated to make annual debt service payments in the neighborhood of $15 million a year for the next 19 years, and this is built into our operating budget. One of our first large bullet payments ($70 million) is due in 25 years. We are adequately reserved to meet our debt service payments and the bullet payments.

Over the last 20 years, the College constructed and funded with this debt, a large build-out of the campus, going from 1.5 million square feet to 2.3 million square feet. Some of the new buildings/projects were the Mahaney Center for the Arts, McCardell Bicentennial Hall, the Natatorium, Kenyon Arena, Ross Commons, the new library, Atwater Commons, the Axinn Center, and the biomass plant. The College's excellent facilities are a factor in attracting students, faculty, and staff to Middlebury.

Due to this construction and the annual renewal and replacement of the College's facilities, Middlebury's average age of its facilities is 9.5 years, which is below the median for our peers (12 years) and is significantly below the industry average of 14 years. If our peers want to keep up with us infrastructure-wise, they would need to invest more in construction—at a time when (1) colleges are dialing back on construction/renovations due to budget shortfalls and (2) access to capital markets is at times difficult.

MM: There has also been discussion about "auxiliary enterprises." Can you explain what these are and what discussions you are having about them?

PN: An auxiliary enterprise is an entity that exists to furnish a service to students, faculty, or staff acting in a personal capacity, and that charges a fee for the use of goods and services. Auxiliary enterprises are expected to be self-supporting activities. The Auxiliary enterprises at Middlebury are retail dining (Grille, Juice Bar, etc.) and dining events, the McCullough convenience store, the golf course and Snow Bowl, the College store, and rental properties. The College provides an enormous subsidy to support the auxiliary enterprises, and we are working with a task force of Middlebury trustees to bring these operations closer to breakeven.

Illustrations by Nigel Holmes

What is the endowment?

The endowment is a permanent fund that helps to ensure Middlebury's financial stability, flexibility, and autonomy.

How it started

The first endowment, created in 1816, was $50,000 from local benefactors. By 1908, it had reached $400,000.

Middlebury's endowment is comprised of 100s of individual endowments.

Individual endowments

- Some have restrictions: they can only be used for certain programs.
- Some may be used any way the College wants.

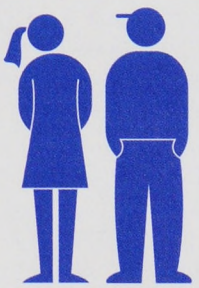
Who manages the money?

Under the oversight of Middlebury's Investment Committee and College Administration, **Investure**, a private investment management company, is the College's investment office.

Why it's important

A sufficiently large and sustainable endowment allows the College to respond to present day circumstances.

- Current spending needs
- The spending needs for future generations of Middlebury students
- Long-range planning
- Balancing the budget
- Enduring commitments



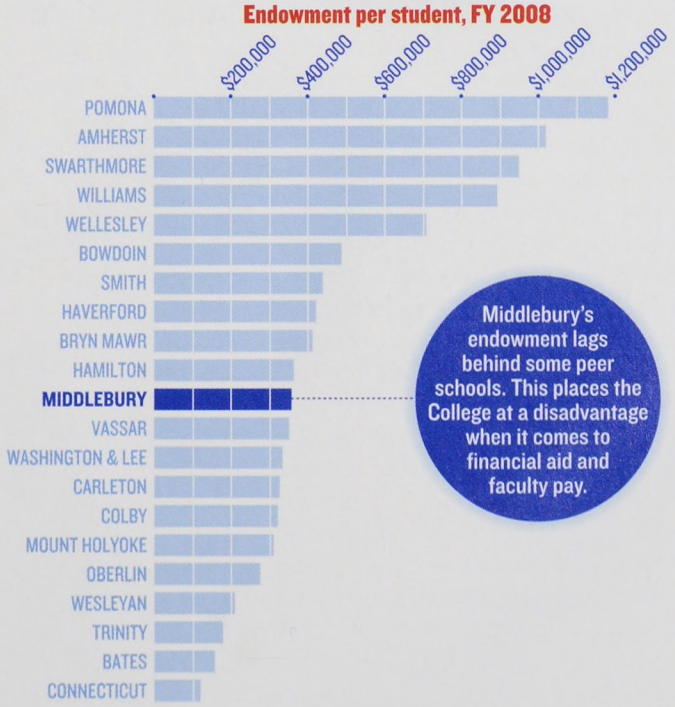
How the money is principally invested

- U.S. company stocks
- International company stocks
- Emerging market stocks
- Non-traditional equity-oriented strategies
- Private company securities
- Physical or tangible assets
- Bonds

Current modeling anticipates 9% annual earnings on these investments.

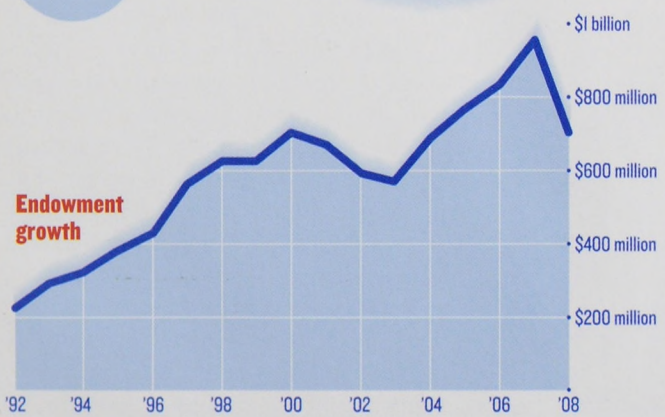
Of this, a portion goes to balance the budget.

Endowment per student, FY 2008



Middlebury's endowment lags behind some peer schools. This places the College at a disadvantage when it comes to financial aid and faculty pay.

Endowment growth



How did we get into this mess?

THE U.S. ECONOMY has just had the equivalent of a heart attack. It happened because the U.S. economy has been, in effect, grossly obese. For the last 25 years it has been a "consumaholic." To finance the consumption splurge, financial institutions increased leverage, individuals borrowed to the hilt, and most people spent beyond their means. This left them open to any small shock. Just as the underlying cause of many heart attacks lies in high-fat food and lack of exercise, the deep-seated cause of the U.S.'s financial heart attack lies in the economy's 25-year binge.

Large, unsustainable increases in asset prices in the stock and housing markets served to keep the underlying problems hidden for a long time. Those asset-price increases made it look as if we didn't have to save—after all, when your $300,000 home is increasing in value by 10 percent a year, that's $30,000 of free money a year; who needs to save?

The problem with consumption based on asset-price bubbles is that the real wealth of an economy can increase by no more than its real rate of growth—which has been about 2 to 3 percent per year. For the last 25 years, people expected much more than that. And

they seemed to get it: Perceived wealth increased much faster than real wealth, creating an illusion of trillions of dollars in wealth that had little foundation in real economic productive capacity. New financial instruments such as structured investment vehicles and exotic derivatives (don't ask) sustained the illusion. But the illusion was unsustainable, and we are now coming face to face with the repercussions.

—David Colander, C. A. Johnson Distinguished Professor of Economics

What are the repercussions of the crisis on Main Street?

THE TERMS that we hear swirling about these days—mortgage-backed securities, collateralized debt obligations—can make the financial crisis seem foreign and abstract. The unfortunate truth is that the repercussions of the crisis are being felt by all of us, whether or not we took out a subprime loan or netted on the credit default swap market.

Distrust and fear have frozen credit markets, making it difficult for businesses to obtain short-term loans that they typically use to maintain needed cash flow. This tighter credit leads to less economic activity, which, in turn, contributes to the economic slowdown that is resulting in falling output and rising unemployment rates.

Meanwhile, local and state governments are facing falling tax revenues even as investors are growing increasingly wary of bond issues. This is exacerbated for many local governmental agencies that had jumped on the investment bandwagon and bought complex financial products that have since suffered large losses. The repercussions also extend back into the housing market where this mess began. Just a single foreclosure has been estimated to lower property values in the immediate area by 1 percent. The impact of multiple foreclosures is likely not linear; as more houses stand vacant, neighborhood blight sets in, and home prices fall even more. And high mortgage-default rates place increasing numbers of homes on the market, which

drives house prices even lower. In the hardest hit states more than one quarter of homeowners owe more than their homes are worth. This only increases the incentive to default, continuing the vicious cycle. We'll eventually break free, but in the meantime everyone is feeling the pain.

—Caitlin Myers, Assistant Professor of Economics

When will the recession end?

RECOVERY FROM THE RECESSION will come in stages. First, the credit crunch will have to ease enough for banks to want to make loans again, not only in real estate but also in other affected areas, such as auto loans. The Fed has done a good job of liquefying the markets, adding more than $2 trillion to the banking system, and the Treasury is supporting the banks' capital positions through the $700 billion TARP. But the damage to confidence has been severe, and it will take months before financial institutions will take on more risk. Second, once credit begins to flow into the housing industry, families will begin to buy houses again. As inventories of unsold houses decrease, builders will begin to act on plans that have been shelved. This will include hiring back some of the people who have been idled. This may take a year or so. Third, activity in other sectors of the economy will have to bottom out. Conditions in the auto industry are especially dicey; the U.S. automakers are on the ropes, and millions of jobs are on the line. Fourth, since our exports have slumped because of recessions elsewhere, other countries will have to stage recoveries as well.

If President Obama follows up quickly on his stimulus plans, especially in spending projects for infrastructure, money will flow into many sectors of the economy, creating jobs. As jobs are created, consumption will recover, and as consumption recovers,

businesses will rebuild inventories and restart longer-term investment. Even if Congress acts swiftly, it's hard to see that happening until late 2009, at the earliest. That said, our financial system has been dealt a severe blow, and confidence won't recover fully until a more credible regulatory structure is in place.

—Scott Pardee, Alan R. Holmes Professor of Monetary Economics

ILLUSTRATIONS BY NOLI NOVAK

MM: This is obviously a very stressful time for families, especially families with children in college. What is Middlebury doing for those parents who have encountered unexpected financial difficulties?

PN: Middlebury is one of a few schools in the country that is need-blind and meets full demonstrated financial aid. If a parent with a child at Middlebury is encountering financial difficulty, I urge them to contact the Office of Student Financial Services to discuss the issue with one of our counselors. They may qualify for a reconsideration of financial aid, and there may be financing options they can avail themselves of. What we don't want to see are students withdrawing for financial reasons before they or their parents have spoken with someone from Student Financial Services.

MM: Do we know yet how the current economic climate is affecting admissions? What about fund-raising?

PN: The current economic climate is not having a huge negative effect on the number of students applying to Middlebury. We are on target for the Annual Fund, which goes to support the operating budget. However, we have reduced our forecast for payments on endowment pledges, which is to say, we still expect these pledges to be fulfilled, but the cash will come in a little later.

MM: What's the financial impact of the affiliation—and proposed integration—with the Monterey Institute of International Studies?

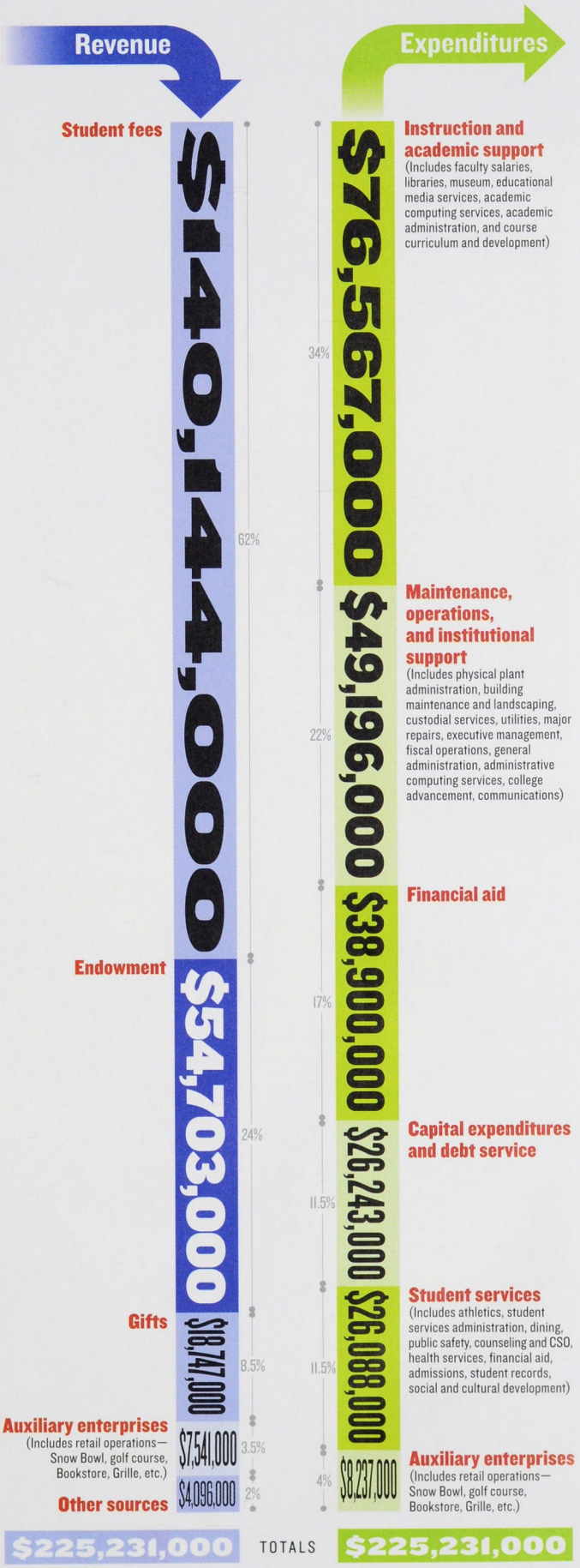
PN: The proposed integration is proceeding as planned. It is planned that by June 30, 2010, the Institute will be a legal unit of Middlebury College. As with the strategic plan, some aspects of integrating the Institute may be slower as a result of the downturn in the economy.

MM: How does the current economic climate affect the Strategic Plan?

PN: Because of the expected decline in revenues over the next few years, the pace by which we will implement some recommendations in the strategic plan will be slower than originally planned.

MM: This is obviously a very fluid and unpredictable time. But are there things that we can be doing to stay a step ahead if possible? And are we doing these things?

PN: The key is to hold the line on our cost-cutting measures, ensure we have enough liquidity to meet our short-term obligations, and ensure we have balanced budgets—while not compromising the quality of our academic program. It won't be easy, and we won't do everything right, but in the end, we will emerge a stronger institution.



KOSOVA
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

The Trial of Andrew Strong

How did a first-year law student find himself on the defense team of an indicted war criminal?

By Richard Mertens
Photograph by Brian MacDonald

People in the Kosovo village of Gllogjan still talk about Andrew Strong '02.

The young American law student who showed up three years ago to help defend Ramush Haradinaj, a local hero and indicted war criminal, is now part of village lore. Folks laugh about the time when, during a raucous Balkan wedding, someone shot off four rounds above Strong's head just to see him jump. Or better yet, there was that afternoon spent drinking *raki,* the local grape brandy, when he rose to toast Haradinaj, who was absent and awaiting judgment in the Hague. In clumsy Albanian, Strong said that Haradinaj had been accused of terrible things—unjustly, everyone in the room felt—and concluded by hurling his cell phone against the wall. Before the cheering subsided, hands were thrusting forward replacements.

Gllogjan is a farming community of a few hundred people in the Dukagjini district of western Kosovo. Hemmed in by mountains, the district is famous for its fertile soil and unruly inhabitants. Like their highland neighbors in northern Albania, just beyond the high, dark peaks of the Cursed Mountains, people in Dukagjini live by codes of honor and hospitality that are closer to Homer's Greece than the European Union. Clannish and patriarchal, they place a high value on military prowess. A decade ago, when ethnic Albanians in Kosovo rose up in the countryside against their Serbian rulers, the fiercest fighting took place in Dukagjini. Haradinaj was the regional commander.

Between 2005 and 2008, Strong was a frequent visitor to Gllogjan, Haradinaj's native village. He went there as a researcher, looking for clues that would vindicate the rebel commander, worrying that he might find other clues that would not. In time, people in Gllogjan began to think of him almost as one of their own. This was due partly to his eager and sometimes entertaining participation in their lives; but he earned their deepest affection for his exertions on behalf of Haradinaj, whom he came to like and admire almost as fervently as they.

"They loved him," says Anita Mucaj, Haradinaj's wife. "He stopped everything in his life and came to work for Ramush. That impressed them."

It came about largely by accident. Two years earlier, Strong had been brewing lattes at a Starbucks in Los Angeles before returning to his native Illinois to attend Chicago-Kent Law School, not far from his suburban home in Geneva. Auditing a course on nation building, he learned about Operation Kosovo, a student project to promote democracy, civil society, and the rule of law in the province.

Kosovo was the southernmost province of Serbia and the poorest part of the former Yugoslavia. A mountainous plateau deep in the Balkans, it was inhabited mainly by ethnic Albanians. For years they had chafed under Serbian rule. In the late 1990s, as this rule grew more repressive, small groups of guerrilla fighters formed in rural areas. Ill equipped and poorly organized, they attacked police stations and ambushed convoys. In response, Serbian

forces shelled, burned, and looted their villages. The brutality of these reprisals appalled the West, and in 1999 NATO intervened. A two-month bombing campaign, carried out largely by high-flying American warplanes, forced Serbia to relinquish the province. After eight years as a UN protectorate, Kosovo declared independence last February.

Kosovo was in some ways a law student's dream—a nation at the moment of formation. Strong first went there during spring break in 2005 to help a professor research a book about the rebels, who had called themselves the Kosovo Liberation Army, or KLA. While he was in Kosovo, news came out that the international war crimes tribunal for Yugoslavia, based in the Hague, had indicted Haradinaj for war crimes and crimes against humanity. By then, the former guerrilla was Kosovo's prime minister—and a favorite of the West—but his central role in the uprising, smuggling guns from Albania and recruiting and organizing fighters in Dukagjini, had come under close scrutiny. Prosecutors felt that his conduct was criminal.

The day the indictment became public, Strong ran into Michael O'Reilly, an Irish lawyer who was organizing Haradinaj's defense. On an impulse he offered to help; O'Reilly immediately accepted. Though Strong had scant legal experience, O'Reilly recognized that he'd bring other qualifications to the defense team. "He brought knowledge of the people and of the situation on the ground," O'Reilly said. "And he was a young guy, a young guy eager to get about. It was easy to put him on the ground in Kosovo and to see what he could find."

Strong took an apartment that summer in Pristina, the drab and dusty provincial capital. Chaotic and overcrowded since the war's end, Pristina, like Kosovo itself, teetered between European aspirations and third-world disorder, its enormous youthful energy frustrated by soaring unemployment, thriving black markets, and frequent blackouts and water shortages. Strong loved it.

"To me there was a sense of being alive there," he said. "I think it's probably not unique to Kosovo, but is probably true of any place that's come out of a conflict situation. Life sort of shoots out of their fingertips."

He worked in an office on Mother Teresa Avenue, Pristina's main street, poring over documents that the war crimes tribunal had gathered as evidence in Haradinaj's case. There were hundreds of them. Some were valuable, such as written orders from KLA commanders. Others were outdated and irrelevant. Strong's job was to sift through them, summarize what was useful, and learn as much as he could about events in Dukagjini during a few bloody and violent months in 1998.

The task was daunting. As in most guerrilla wars, the fighting had been shadowy and confusing, even to the participants. To an outsider, the names alone bred confusion. Every town, village, and hilltop had at least two names, one Serbian and one Albanian. But working at his computer and studying maps plastered over the office walls, he slowly began to make sense of the confusion. At the end of the summer, he summarized what he knew of the fighting in Dukagjini and drew up a list of 25 witnesses to interview.

Strong took the list to Haradinaj, who was free until his trial. Haradinaj and his wife lived in an opulent new house overlooking the capital city. He greeted Strong warmly, and the two

Ramush Haradinaj, a former guerrilla leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army, was on trial for his life at the Hague.

chatted amiably over coffee. Haradinaj knew how to put people at ease. But when he glanced over the list, his mood darkened. He shook his head. This man was dead, he said. That one was "an animal." Another was locked in a Serbian jail.

"Andrew," he asked. "How old are you?" Strong, who was just 25, was keenly aware that at his age many Kosovars had already been seasoned fighters.

"You need to strap on your boots and go out in the field," Haradinaj said. "You can't do this job from Pristina. You can't do this from Chicago. You have to strap on your boots and go talk to people."

Strong had never met anyone like Haradinaj. He was stocky and muscular, built like a wrestler. In pictures, his shirts always looked a size too small. His short, military-style haircut and rimless eyeglasses suggested a highly intelligent nightclub bouncer. He was impulsive but thoughtful, and he showed a keen interest in other people. He possessed enormous personal magnetism. In a crowded room it was easy to spot Haradinaj, even if you didn't know him.

More than his charisma, though, Strong admired Haradinaj's bravery and toughness. To friends back home, he would recount the fighter's exploits: how he smuggled guns over the high-mountain passes from Albania; how he led the defense of his village and barely escaped with his life; how he trained in exile in Switzerland before the war by taking a train a hundred kilometers out of Geneva, getting off, and jogging home. But

Photograph: AP Images/Ed Oudenaarden

what impressed Strong most of all was Haradinaj's moral strength. His upbringing in Dukagjini had instilled in him an acute sense of honor.

"Sitting in a room with him, I feel like I imagine it must have felt like to sit with Lincoln, or Otto von Bismarck," he wrote in a letter to his law school. "Someone that not only has incredible talent but who is then put into a unique circumstance which then magnifies and brings the best of those talents to bear. Ramush is larger than life."

Strong took Haradinaj's words as much as a challenge as a rebuke. In the months that followed, he traveled to Dukagjini many times, at first with an interpreter, then alone. He studied maps, interviewed former guerrillas, walked and drove over the land. He did not want to let Haradinaj down. "He felt that this guy was a role model for him," said Brian Martin '02, a friend and former college roommate. "He wanted to impress him."

It was not easy. The people in Dukagjini were reluctant to discuss the war. Other foreigners had come with questions, including investigators from the war-crimes tribunal who turned out to be gathering evidence against Haradinaj. People did not always accept Strong's assurances that he was on Haradinaj's side. They felt they had been tricked before, and his inquiries often provoked anger and distrust. Those who did talk often knew very little. On many days, Strong drove back to Pristina utterly discouraged.

But he persevered. He talked to hundreds of people—local commanders, village elders, even monks in a nearby Serb monastery. He hiked up the slopes above Dukagjini, following the mountain trails that KLA fighters had used to smuggle weapons from Albania. In this way, scraps of information began to come together, and like a thousand-piece puzzle, a picture of the war in Dukagjini began to emerge. After two years he could describe what happened in any part of Dukagjini on any given day. He could say who was important and who was not. He knew as much as anyone about the fighting in Dukagjini. And people began to open up to him.

"I think he impressed people with the depth of his knowledge," O'Reilly said. "The vast number of internationals who go there don't know what was going on. Andrew knew a hell of a lot."

At the same time his work drew him more and more into the life of Gllogjan. Daut Haradinaj, one of Ramush's younger brothers, taught him how to assemble, shoot, and take apart a pistol. He took up smoking. He would join local men in their *odas*, the large rooms where rural Albanians received their guests, sitting on low benches covered with sheepskin, drinking coffee and *raki*.

"He's incredibly gregarious," said Tim Sinnott '02, a college friend who helped him map parts of Dukagjini. "He knows how to listen and engage himself in conversations better than anyone I know. Not just in conversations, but in someone's life."

As Haradinaj's friend, Strong enjoyed an exalted status in Dukagjini. Many people mistook him for Haradinaj's lawyer. When he visited Haradinaj's house, Haradinaj almost always invited Strong to sit next to him, the place of honor. They often talked about the war. Haradinaj could be disarmingly forthright. He confessed how difficult the war had been for him personally, and how hard it had been to organize a group of fighters with no authority except persuasion and personal example. Strong would listen in wonderment and admiration.

"I don't know if a lot of people have been tested as hard as Ramush," he said. "He retained that sense of right and wrong and integrity in war, and in the face of extreme personal tragedy. That made an impression on me. I've never met anyone who has been tested like that."

Strong had liked Haradinaj almost as soon as he met him, but he was not so quickly convinced of his innocence. Like many outsiders, he assumed that even if Haradinaj were not guilty of war crimes, he must have done *something* to warrant the accusations. But the better he got to know Haradinaj and his role in the conflict, the more powerfully he believed in him. It was not only that his research began to expose the weaknesses in the tribunal's case, but also that he came to admire Haradinaj so deeply. "I saw he really didn't belong in the Hague," he said.

The prosecution's case was straightforward: it blamed Haradinaj for the killing, torture, and expulsion of civilians during the spring and summer of 1998. The prosecution did not accuse him of personally committing these crimes. Instead, it charged that as the regional KLA commander, Haradinaj bore ultimate responsibility for them. The KLA, it maintained, was not just a guerrilla force but also a "joint criminal enterprise." Strong came to regard these accusations not only as false but also as profoundly unjust. His own research suggested that rather than harm civilians, Haradinaj had gone out of the way to protect them. "I was there for three years," he said. "I looked hard for evidence that would hurt us. I never found it."

The trial began on March 5, 2007, and lasted 131 days, concluding on January 23, 2008. While waiting for the verdict, Strong traveled, hoping to take his mind off the case. He could not. He was terrified that Haradinaj might get convicted. His whole faith in the justice system seemed to hang in the balance.

On April 3, the three judges announced their verdict. They found Haradinaj's uncle, one of two others accused with him, guilty of torture. But they acquitted Haradinaj of all charges.

Strong felt relieved and vindicated. He flew back to Kosovo and joined Haradinaj on a triumphant return to Gllogjan. When he entered Haradinaj's *oda*, the other men stood and cheered. They patted him on the back as he walked to the head of the room. Before he sat down, someone put a gun in his hand. He knew what to do. He pointed it out a window and squeezed the trigger. "*Ky eshte per Ramushi*!" he yelled. "This is for Ramush!" It felt fantastic.

Strong returned to Chicago in the fall. He resumed his law studies, this time at Northwestern University. After the trial he had been offered jobs working for other defense teams at the Hague, but he had declined them. The Haradinaj trial had exhausted him. What had started out as an adventure had turned into a deeply personal cause. Now, he said, "I tried to move forward." But he still thinks often about Gllogjan. In the Dukagjini plain, he says, he felt more connected to Kosovo than anywhere else. He feels sure he'll go back. He has friends there.

Richard Mertens is a freelance writer in Chicago.

In Plain Sight

By the time he was six, John Hunisak knew that the life that lay ahead of him was not the life he would pursue.

By Jeffrey Lott '73 ■ Illustration by Miguel Santamarina

In the Johnson Building's cavernous room 304, Professor John Hunisak—immaculately dressed in shirt, tie, and sleeveless sweater—checks his laptop, glances at the clock, and, precisely at 9:30 A.M., takes attendance. About 30 students, mostly first-years and sophomores, squirm to get comfortable in tablet chairs.

My job this October morning is to observe Hunisak, who is in his 39th year on the Middlebury faculty, as he teaches the introductory course Monuments and Ideas in Western Art. He's the subject here. Yet for the next 75 minutes, I fight against the urge to immerse myself in art.

The topic is 15th-century art north of the Alps, the first stirrings of the Northern Renaissance. The lights dim, a digital projector flashes on, and, without a note, Hunisak—short, compact, and nearly bald—is off and running. Untethered to anything but his ideas about art, he strolls the center aisle with his left hand in his pocket and his right hand wielding a laser pointer, a kind of tribal talking stick that he thrusts at students, asking questions like: "What's narrative here and what's symbolic? We've been talking about that from the first day." When the student takes hold of the talking stick, the pedagogical table turns for a moment; Hunisak becomes the listener as the student beams everyone's attention to a detail of the work under discussion.

And what works they are: masterpieces by Campin, Van Eyck, Van der Weyden, and Bosch. I'm captivated by the splendid paintings and by Hunisak's effortless, perfectly sequenced descriptions and arguments. I struggle to observe dispassionately the seasoned professor at work; but I can't keep my eyes off the screen as he weaves together iconography, style, technique, light, color—and yes, the narrative and the symbolic—all while conveying his deep love of these objects. They are "marvelous," "miraculous," and "astonishing." He calls Van der Weyden's *Deposition from the Cross* "the first unmitigated masterpiece of painting . . . an elegantly choreographed dance."

Hunisak ends the class with *Garden of Earthly Delights* by Hieronymus Bosch—a phantasmagoria of sex, bestiality, monsters, murder, and mayhem that seems out of place among the largely religious works that have taken up most of the 75-minute class. If any of the students have tuned out in the dark, Bosch jolts them back to attention. "It's anybody's guess what's going on here," Hunisak observes dryly as the students squint to catch the details of this fantastic and disturbing painting. "It's an *astonishing* feat of imagination—an *astonishing* depiction of what people can do. But, I can assure you, it was taken *deadly seriously* by its patron, Philip II."

There's an audible exhalation as the lights come up.

After class, Hunisak introduces me to a colleague as "my first student at Middlebury." It's actually true. In early September 1970, before he taught his first class at the College, I walked into Hunisak's Johnson Building office with a modest proposal: I wanted to read all three volumes of Vincent van Gogh's letters to his brother Theo, one of the most remarkable primary sources in art history, and write a paper about them. On the recommendation of Richard Turner, the department chair then, Hunisak agreed to take me on for an independent study project. By the end of that semester, he had driven me much further into Van Gogh than just the letters. And although I never took an actual course with him, we became friends, as often happens at colleges like Middlebury.

Only recently did I calculate that as an undergraduate, I was just three years younger than Professor Hunisak. I was 19 when I first arrived at Middlebury in fall 1966, and completed just one year of college before taking nearly three years off. By the time Hunisak joined the faculty, my original class had graduated, and I was still a sophomore. While I had lurched through both high school and my first attempt at college, John had rocketed from valedictorian at Greenwich Central High School, near Troy, New York, to a Tyng Scholarship at Williams College that included three years of graduate study. I was playing hippie in Boston while he was in grad school at New York University, studying with renowned art historian H. W. Janson. So, by the time I returned to Middlebury in winter 1970 (having married my freshman-year classmate Wendy Coe), I was a different kind of student.

But John was a different kind of professor. He invited us to dinner at his one-bedroom faculty apartment, where he played opera records while teaching us how to make carbonara. (He sang, too, introducing us to Franz Schubert's *Lieder*, which he performed in the Johnson Building atrium to the astonishment of all.) In John's kitchen, we learned to peel a clove of garlic by smashing it with the side of a chef's knife. I had never seen such a knife. In fact, I probably had never seen real garlic. It was *astonishing, marvelous.* We sipped wine and talked about art. Sometimes we all joined printmaking professor David Bumbeck and his wife Connie in their little College house across from St. Mary's Catholic Church. Small children were underfoot. We were grownups. It was *miraculous.*

In Hunisak's office, we sit down to talk. It's a typical faculty office, with floor-to-ceiling books, two computers, a comfortable couch, the usual clutter. On the floor behind his desk is a 20-pound double volume, *The Art of Florence*, which he coauthored with Middlebury colleagues Richard Turner and Glenn Andres. Over my head as I sit on the couch is the stuffed head of an antlered buck. I'm taken aback (surely John is not a deer hunter) until he shows me a faded photo of him at age five with his father and uncle—and twin dead bucks spilling out of the trunk of a 1948 Buick convertible. Little John stands stiffly between the men, who were twin brothers. When his parents died, Hunisak saved the mounted head as a talisman of his childhood—of the life he left behind.

We've just come from his second class of the day—a first-year seminar on Andy Warhol and his times—and John is thirsty and a little breathless. All entering students take such a seminar, a writing-intensive course taught by the faculty member who will serve as the student's academic adviser for the

But John was a different kind of professor.
He invited us to dinner at his one-bedroom faculty apartment,
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while teaching us how to make carbonara

first three semesters at Middlebury, until a major is chosen. Few of these students will end up majoring in art history, but they will learn something about Warhol—and a lot about academic writing—during their first semester with Hunisak.

In class, the students receive comments on their third paper of the term. Hunisak is encouraging: "Five of you received your best grade to date. Two have entered the *A* range for the first time." A detailed handout points out problems that remain: Arbitrary changes in verb tense. Sentence fragments. *As* and *like* are not interchangeable. Do not "plop" quotations without preparing your own text to receive them.

"It's like a bird shitting on your head," Hunisak says, "It's not nice." The students laugh, but they learn.

Hunisak's academic interest in Warhol is relatively recent. His doctoral dissertation was on the 19th-century French sculptor Jules Dalou, who rivaled but did not eclipse Auguste Rodin. Then came the book on Florence, to which Hunisak contributed all the essays on sculpture, while Turner covered painting and Andres architecture. Hunisak hasn't written a Warhol book, but a spate of essays and articles attest to his growing interest and expertise. Middlebury, he says, has allowed him to follow his intellectual instincts. "I have a colleague at a big university who can teach only one narrow subject—that's his life. But here, I can reinvent myself; there's room to change and grow." Like teaching Van Eyck and Warhol in the same day.

Later in the department office, he discovers a package from the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. "Oh," he chirps excitedly, "it's the catalog!" In fact, there are two catalogues—one in English, the other French—for the recent exhibition *Warhol Live!*, which explores the artist's relationship with music. Hunisak has contributed one of the essays.

We think of Warhol as the '60s patron of the drug-driven Velvet Underground or the designer of the Rolling Stones' *Sticky Fingers* album cover or, later, as a denizen of the Studio 54 disco scene. But Hunisak has described something largely unknown about the Pop genius: Warhol (like John) was a lifelong fan of opera. At Pittsburgh's Andy Warhol Museum, where the artist's papers are preserved, Hunisak found ticket stubs, credit card receipts, and opera programs showing that Warhol was a regular at the Metropolitan Opera. He was a Thursday night subscriber for many years and adored such stars as Maria Callas and Leontyne Price. The Met is a far cry from the scene at Warhol's Factory, which was peopled by other sorts of stars, such as Viva and Ultra Violet. But it fits with Warhol's chameleon-like persona, which fronted an indifferent mythic artist and hid a complicated curious intellect.

Hunisak writes, "Warhol had a knack for hiding in full view. He understood that—if he wanted to conceal something highly personal, like his love of opera—partial revelation could be as effective as camouflage." In the same essay, Hunisak observes, "Andy probably entered the operatic realm [in the early 1950s] through the sophisticated gay subculture that became his natural milieu after he arrived in New York."

Although John Hunisak was the first gay professor I encountered—and also one of the first out gay men I knew—he too seemed to have a knack for hiding in full view. People knew he was gay, but in 1970, even in academia, it was risky to be too far out of the closet. Today, when it's a lot safer, John still doesn't flaunt his sexuality. In our hours together in October (classes, interview, a great dinner in Vergennes, and a quiet drink afterward at his stylish, art-filled townhouse off Seymour Street), he said just one thing about being gay—and he said it obliquely.

He had written that Andy Warhol has a "rightful place among such great gay artists of the past as Donatello, Michelangelo, Cellini, and Caravaggio." Is there, I ask, a certain sensibility that distinguishes homosexual artists from others of their milieu? Laughing, he remembers that art historian James Saslow, author of *Ganymede in the Renaissance: Homosexuality in Art and Society*, once said, in a lecture at Middlebury, "If Michelangelo hadn't been gay, the Sistine ceiling would have been off-white." He shows me a book of Warhol's little-known "torsos," a series of homoerotic photographs from the 1950s and early '60s. Then he says, "Warhol was there at the cusp of the change," referring to the beginning of gay liberation, of being out. "[Robert] Rauschenberg and [Jasper] Johns reviled Warhol, partially because he had started as a commercial artist,

but mostly they thought he was 'too swish.' There was something about Andy's obsession with glamour . . . something about the masquerade, the need to create an alternative self, that becomes part of the sensibility."

Hunisak was there at the "cusp of the change," too.

Earlier, in the first-year seminar, he had relished describing how Warhol brought the Velvet Underground to a party at architect Philip Johnson's famous glass house in New Canaan, Connecticut, and how Johnson, painter David Hockney, photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, novelist Truman Capote, and artist Keith Haring—"a whole lot of accomplished gay men"—had all commissioned portraits from Warhol. "It just occurred to me for the first time this morning," he told the students. "It's a whole subcategory of Warhol's work."

HUNISAK GREW UP IN EASTON, NEW YORK, about 25 miles north of Troy. His grandparents were immigrants from Poland. His father, also John Hunisak, was a hired hand on dairy farms. It was, in John's term, a "subsistence" existence—living at times with aunts and uncles and getting along, but never gaining.

"My distaste for tending to the crops and animals developed into a loathing by the time I was six," he recalled in a personal remembrance, written for the Easton Public Library. "I had already developed quite different ambitions, which involved growing up to leave Easton, becoming college educated, and seeing the world." Three exceptional women helped him achieve this goal in ways that his family could not.

May Scott, the sole teacher at the North Easton school he attended for four years, took him under her wing. He wrote: "One of the greatest values of attending a one-room schoolhouse was the possibility of knowing the full educational agenda by the end of the first year." Easton librarian Kathryn Thompson, who "listened to me read aloud, haltingly, and corrected my mispronunciations or defined words that were not yet part of my vocabulary," helped Hunisak become a strong reader at an early age.

Then there was Jane Welling.

"Aunt Jane," a retired art-education professor, had returned to her family home in Easton, where, one summer day, she held a fashion show and pageant for the children of the small community. Older kids modeled period clothing from Welling's collection, while she "served as mistress of ceremonies, identifying the models and the dates of the clothes they wore. Not even the May Day pageant at our local Catholic church . . . matched the theatrical production in Aunt Jane's backyard, with folding chairs, music, and baskets of flowers." Before long, Aunt Jane had become Hunisak's "best friend, a situation I had never before known was possible with an adult."

Welling's worldliness fascinated young Hunisak. He loved her home, which was filled with art, furniture, and personal mementos. "Almost everything had a story or memory connected with it," he remembered. He learned that Welling had studied at Columbia Teachers College, where she had once shared an apartment with young Georgia O'Keeffe. "In my later study of art history, I became aware of O'Keeffe, a seminal importance," Hunisak said, "but I learned her name before I had heard of Michelangelo."

Welling remained Hunisak's friend and mentor until 1970, weeks before he began teaching at Middlebury. After apartment hunting in Vermont that summer, Hunisak drove to Easton, carrying with him a College catalog containing his name and the courses he would be teaching. A knock on Welling's door went unanswered. She had died the previous day.

AT THE END OF OUR INTERVIEW, I read John his own description of an early Warhol painting, made at Carnegie Tech, where Warhol studied in the late 1940s. As part of a yearlong course taught by Robert Lepper on the interconnectedness of art and life, the students were to choose a private home where they knew no one, then construct an interior scene based solely on external evidence. Warhol cheated, painting instead a bleak view inside the Pittsburgh-area home where he grew up. Here's what Hunisak wrote of Warhol's "academic shortcut":

> Poor Catholic immigrants from Eastern Europe, like [Warhol's] parents, didn't worry about such niceties as ease of circulation through a room, the tasteful arrangement of furniture, or the maintenance of window and lamp shades at a constant height or angle. A rumpled rug, stray newspaper, or askew doily was no big cause for concern. They did care about covering chairs and couches with throw cloths to protect them from dirty work clothes, and about featuring a crucifix prominently as a visible emblem of their faith. With unsentimental clarity, Warhol captured this drab, humble, and disordered interior, which lacked any hint of civilized amenities beyond a radio.

Hunisak goes on to comment that Warhol's "strict Byzantine Catholic upbringing had surely conditioned him to the notion of sacramentals: objects, like the crucifix . . . were intangible manifestations of interior, sacred realities. He came to realize a secular corollary—as well as Vincent van Gogh had, six decades earlier: mundane objects—carefully chosen and insightfully observed—can reveal essential truths." Like a can of Campbell's Soup.

But, I ask, is there some sort of Baudelairian correspondence between John Hunisak and Andy Warhol? Between wanting out of North Easton and wanting out of the "drab, humble, disordered interior" of postwar Pittsburgh?

He agrees that their experiences were parallel, but he speaks only of Warhol. "Andy was always vaguely ashamed, and he always wanted out," John says quietly. "And he knew that his talent was the only thing that would do that for him."

Jeffrey Lott '73 is senior publications editor at Swarthmore College. He received an A- from Professor Hunisak for his paper on Van Gogh.

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Class Action

BACK COUNTRY
For an avalanche forecaster, central Idaho may be the most difficult place in America to work. Janet Kellam '78 wouldn't want to be anywhere else. Photograph by Bridget Besaw

Snow Rush

Few love snow as much as Janet Kellam '78. Even fewer understand its dangers as well as she.

By Cameron Walker

Central Idaho is a mess of mountains, a place where the snowpack can change dramatically between one slope and the next, where a skier could cross a ridge and move from perfect, stable powder to avalanche-prone slab. When Janet Kellam '78 has worked with weather forecasters from out of the area, they confess, "I don't know how you do accurate forecasts for central Idaho."

As the director of the Sawtooth National Forest Avalanche Center in Ketchum, Idaho, that's exactly what Kellam does.

From its name, the center sounds like an underground control hub in a James Bond movie, with rows of headset-wearing agents tapping away beneath a giant screen. Instead, it's a single computer in a small, shared room, tucked in an unobtrusive Forest Service building on the road to the Sun Valley Lodge.

Seated at the computer, Kellam zooms from program to program, pulling up snow-depth and precipitation data and photos of avalanches roiling like thunderheads, which she dubs "avalanche porn." Willie, her two-year-old Australian shepherd mix, curls up at her feet.

"There's just such a dynamic life to the snowpack," says Kellam. "To me it's very intriguing to try to anticipate what's going to happen." Pictures of the white stuff hang from the walls; she gushes over electron microscope images of faceted snow crystals, which can create unstable layers in the snowpack. The woman simply loves snow.

It's been a lifelong relationship for Kellam. Growing up in Niskayuna, New York, she started skiing on local hills; at Middlebury, she skied on the downhill and cross-country teams.

A winter day at the avalanche center starts when Kellam or one of her two forecasters arrives before dawn. Notes about snowpack conditions taken from the previous day's fieldwork are combined with weather data on everything—from temperature to wind direction to snow water content—in order to determine the avalanche danger. It's all woven into the report, which Kellam calls a blend of science and wordsmithing.

These reports feed the growing number of skiers and snowboarders searching Idaho's backcountry for solitude and untracked lines. The goal, she says, is to give backcountry users the best information to make informed decisions about when and where to go.

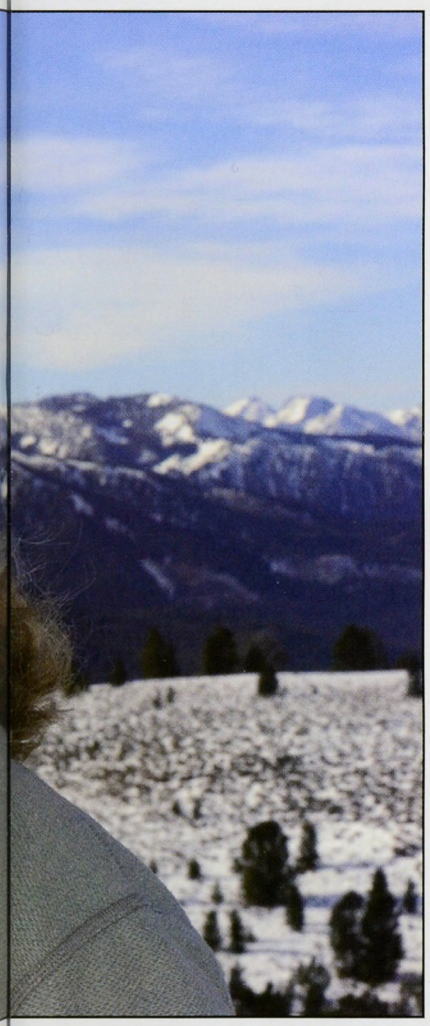
Photograph by Bridget Besaw

Kellam understands the attraction: While she was a student at Middlebury, she got a summer-job offer with the Student Conservation Association in Stanley, Idaho. One glance at a map of the area's gigantic roadless expanses and she was sold.

PEAKS OF INTEREST
Janet Kellam describes her work as "part wordsmithing, part science." It also takes a good deal of courage and a thrill for the outdoors—both of which she has, in abundance.

She kept returning during her college summers, and later, winters. While she's taken a few breaks—ski guiding in California and Idaho, working on documentary films in the West and internationally—this is her home. "What really kept me coming back here was the community," she says.

By the mid-1990s, the then tiny avalanche center needed to be expanded to better serve the community.



Its director, Doug Abromeit, saw Kellam's "tremendous" backcountry skiing ability, snow savvy, and skills at community organizing—she and a business partner had rallied locals around the threatened Galena Lodge, a nearby nordic skiing institution. He pulled her into the Sawtooth center as a forecaster for the winter of 1996–97; she became director in 2001. Abromeit credits Kellam with boosting community involvement in the center and enhancing the center's work with backcountry buffs—particularly motorized and nonmotorized users—who might conflict over wilderness use.

The center's online avalanche reports support this desire to serve a wider community. They deliver simple, accurate forecasts and use a compelling mix of simple text, graphics, and photography to educate their audience. A Sawtooth avalanche safety brochure that relies on similar editorial and graphic treatment has been adopted by avalanche centers nationwide. Moreover, the center runs avalanche classes for a range of levels, serving more than 500 people each winter.

The point of the center's efforts isn't to create paranoia. "We're really trying to help people get out more, because that's so much why we live here," she says.

Many consider Kellam an important community leader. In early 2008, two cycles of urban avalanches hit areas of Ketchum, Hailey, and Sun Valley, endangering homes and residents living at the base of steep slopes.

It was Kellam's day off, but during the second series of snow slides, she hopped in a truck with avalanche forecaster Chris Lundy, following the emergency calls on the radio. While the avalanche center doesn't work regularly with town emergency crews, "anytime she said something, people stopped and listened," Lundy says. "It was pretty impressive to see that all those years of building relationships with people had paid off."

While she laughs easily at herself, the stories she tells are sobering—and riveting.

Kellam, who serves as president of the American Avalanche Association, is known for setting a schedule and keeping people on task. Yet colleagues also describe her as humble, an essential quality in a discipline where even experts can be wrong—with serious consequences. Says Mark Mueller, AAA's executive director: "Janet is always very self-deprecating and doesn't take herself too seriously, which I think is really an important part of being in the field."

You can see this in the room around her. Along with the snow pictures, her office space is replete with gag gifts and funny photos from family and friends. Case in point: a pair of ski goggles with a magnifying glass in front of each lens, which Lundy made for Kellam's 50th birthday. "I used to be an eagle eye," she explains.

While she laughs easily at herself, the stories she tells are sobering—and riveting. She even has her own story. In 2000, she and two other women were checking conditions in Baker Creek, northwest of Ketchum. As they crossed a low-angle slope during moderate avalanche danger—one at a time, as safe avalanche travel demands—the thick slab of snow on the steeper slope above her broke and took her with it.

An avalanche had tumbled her once before ("when I was young and knew enough to be dangerous," she laughs), but this time, she was completely buried. She tried to fling an arm up and create an air pocket with the other, as she had taught in her classes, but all she could move was a little finger. Her ski partners uncovered her face in less than five minutes.

The experience has helped her talk with victims' families. She recalls telling her story to the wife of an avalanche victim, who wondered about her husband's last moments. "And I said, 'It really bugs me, because I like to think of myself as a fighter. But, basically, everything was okay. It felt good; it felt peaceful. I felt like I could just drift off, and it was all right.' "

During higher levels of avalanche danger, she now skips skiing with people who are cavalier about avalanches. But when the hazard dips low, she says, "Man, we're going. I don't care what kind of a day it is, we are *going*."

It's the last Saturday in March, and Kellam writes the forecast—her last for the winter. It warns of considerable danger on high-elevation slopes, so I follow her advice, and stick to Galena Lodge's cross-country ski trails.

Cameron Walker is a freelance writer based in California.

Spell Check

Getting to the ~~route~~ root of one's troubled relationship with spelling

By Elisabeth Crean

The urge to exorcise childhood demons often prods an author to undertake a literary journey. The ghosts that haunt writer David Wolman '96 are not the usual suspects such as substance abuse or dysfunctional parenting. His lifelong burden is that he's "a crap speller . . . a guy who makes his living wielding words that he can't spell aloud."

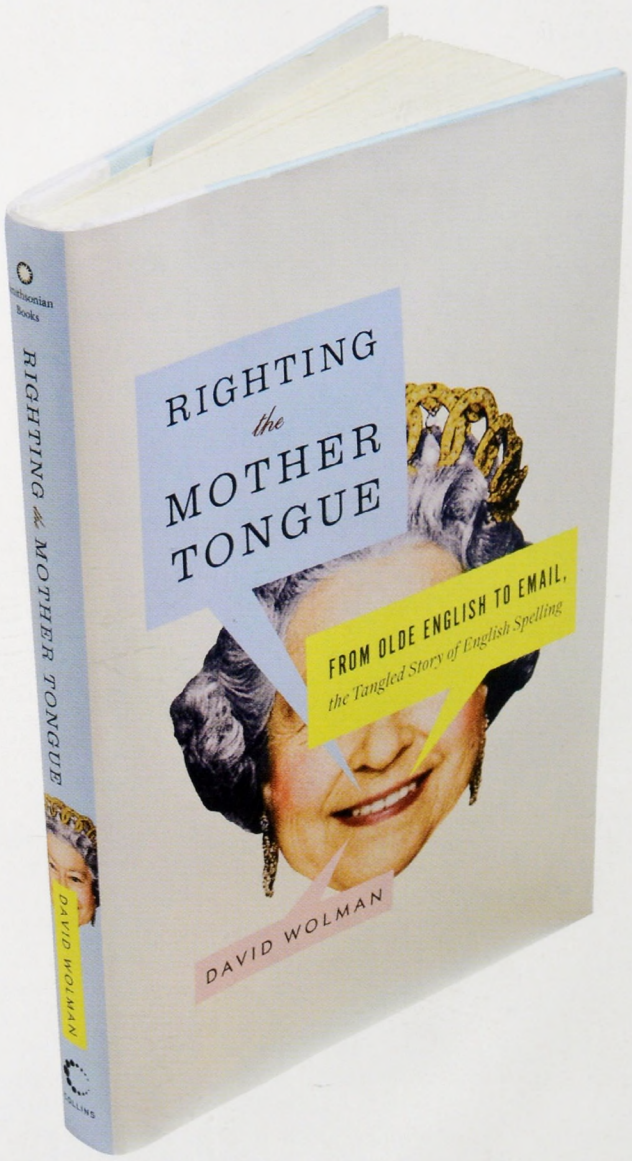
His gnawing sense of inadequacy propels him to venture across Europe and America, asking: "Why does English have such a screwy spelling system?" *Righting the Mother Tongue: From Olde English to Email, the Tangled Story of English Spelling* (HarperCollins, 2008) is Wolman's swift, lighthearted tour through the history of English and its idiosyncratic orthography.

The pun on "writing" in the title is intentional. As the author discovers how written and spoken English came so often to diverge, he also examines movements to "right" the language by simplifying spelling. At the same time, he tries to find an explanation for his own troubled alphabetic history. Could an undiagnosed brain disorder account for his chronic dependency on spellchecker?

The motley pedigree of our mother tongue created the orthographical mess. Wolman travels to evocative historical sites around Britain, reflecting on the ancient invaders who left behind permanent linguistic troops. Romans, Anglo-Saxon tribes, and Normans, for example, ultimately contributed thousands of Latin, Germanic, and French vocabulary words to English.

Wolman discovers that English itself wasn't always the only language spoken in England. After the Norman Conquest in 1066, social and professional class often dictated the choice. French became the language of government, while church business was conducted in Latin. The commoners still used English, but regional dialects varied considerably. Spelling often depended on local pronunciation. Monks were the most prolific scribes, and thus a powerful early influence on orthography.

Spelling began to settle into more regular patterns with the transition from hand-copied to printed pages. Compositors added or dropped letters to even out margins as they were setting type, and different conventions arose in individual printing houses. Almost immediately, the first wave of language punditry began "about the need to untangle the spelling code."



The first spelling reform movement ironically didn't involve making English easier. Instead, there was a Renaissance push to emphasize the Greek and Latin content of the mother tongue. Adding "aesthetic pizzazz" and paying "homage to etymology" resulted in *more* complexity and silent letters. Meanwhile, British colonization and naval expansion across the globe

Photographs by Tad Merrick

continued to add new foreign "bling" to the language. And Shakespeare, with his "pyrotechnical playfulness," himself coined more than 2,000 new words.

Attempts to create an English equivalent to the *Académie française*, which oversees changes to French, always foundered. Samuel Johnson diagnosed the problem: disobedience to authority in Britain was "publick sport." Yet Johnson was the man to create the "most comprehensive dictionary the world had ever seen," published in 1755, with 43,000 entries. He therefore did more than anyone to codify English spelling, describing the language as it was, more than prescribing changes.

Across the pond and a few decades later, Noah Webster championed change. His mission was to create a distinctly American language, to "galvanize a spirit of shared culture and purpose." He wanted to purge "spelling ills inherited from the disowned mother country." Many of the new spellings in his monumental dictionary have become permanent in American English (colour to color; theatre to theater). But his ideas for more radical change never took hold. Wolman points out Webster's fundamental logic flaw. Why would Americans who had just thrown off monarchical authority respond to top-down dictates of any kind?

This essentially doomed all attempts at overhauling English spelling. Wolman chronicles, with a certain glee, the quixotic nature of these movements and reformers. He begins to relax about his personal spelling travails and he puts them in context. Although pundits may decry e-mail and texting as culprits in the decline of literacy, Wolman argues that the explosion of electronic communication may end up accomplishing—from the bottom up—spelling reforms that none of the elite movements was ever able to achieve.

Even Noah Webster himself might LOL about that.

—*EC*

The Poetry of Flight

Don Axinn '51—pilot, businessman, philanthropist—is the latest in a distinguished line of American poets who produced their creative work on the side, as it were, in the odd moments and gaps of some other demanding career. Wallace Stevens was a lawyer and vice president at the Hartford Insurance Company and for most of his life kept a room in the attic of his house—and of his life, perhaps—where he wrote some of the 20th century's most important poems. His insurance colleagues had no idea he was a poet until he won the Pulitzer Prize. William Carlos Williams was a physician in Rutherford, New Jersey, and delivered some two thousand babies in the course of his career among the urban and immigrant poor. He wrote poems on prescription pads, sometimes in his car, between house calls.

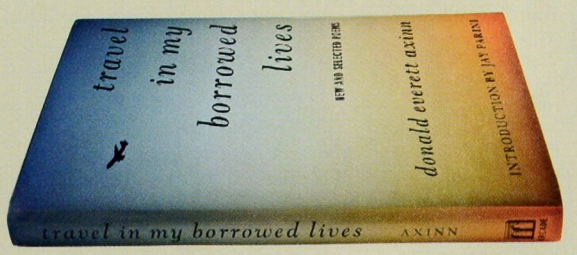
Stevens's poetry continually contemplates the relationship between reality and the imagination, but so far as we know, he wrote no poems about insurance. Williams's patients occasionally appear in his poems and short stories ("Geeze, Doc, I guess it's all right / but what the hell does it mean?"). Don Axinn, however, makes his work the very subject of his poetry. *Travel in My Borrowed Lives: New and Selected Poems* (Arcade Publishing, 2008) presents the poet in all his occupations. The pilot poems are particularly joyful, celebrating the courage and passion of flyers everywhere, and, like Gerard Manley Hopkins, finding beauty in the "gear and tackle and trim" of the trade, as expressed in "Time to Fly":

> The pilot rolls open the large doors,
> walks to his flying ship,
> its smells filling his soul
> like an elixir. He stands for a moment
> between the wings and fuselage,
> rests a hand on the painted fabric,
> its feel no longer needing
> to be remembered.

The view from the plane is always awe-inspiring, pushing the poet always to the edge of mystery. "You know the earth is really down there: / Mountains, meadows, roads, runways. / Quietly, you fly / Your way through cold, dispassionate time" ("Come with Me").

Axinn the businessman appears as well, in the guise of "The Hunter" who once wore fur and mud, but "Now I wash and shave, groomed / in pinstripes, a tie covering my jugular." The "quarry captured and soon bound; / I return with a contract /. . ." But in this selection of poems from seven previous volumes and 30 new poems, the tone is decidedly more tender. Elegies abound—for friends and former lovers, for his father and for heroes from the past. Finding consolation in the beauty of the natural world and the wisdom of Native American traditions, the poet confronts also his own mortality: "Soon I yell out defiantly into the wind: / 'What I am is that I am here. I am here / And will remain furiously alive' " ("Signs and Signals").

Brett Millier is the Reginald L. Cook Professor of English and American Literatures at Middlebury.



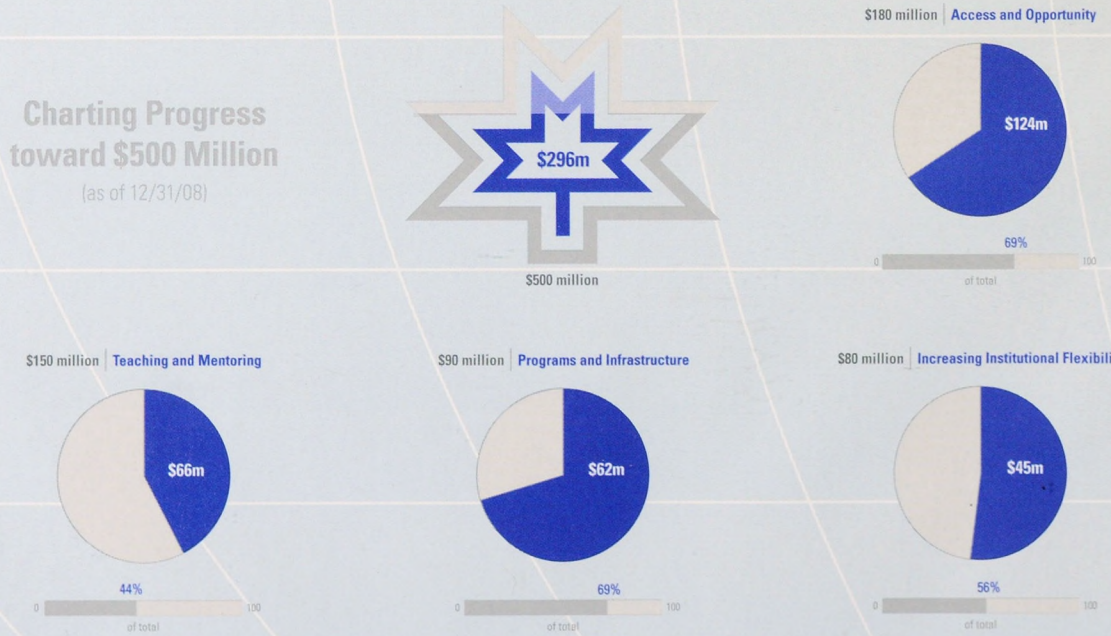
Liberal Arts *Global Action*

The Middlebury Initiative

The pursuit of knowledge is not a 9–5 endeavor.

At Middlebury, we want all settings to be conducive to learning.

text by Maria Theresa Stadtmueller



www.middleburyinitiative.org

Live the Language

The Language Schools' Pledge doesn't stop at conversation. Students play soccer and chess in language, learn to dance, sing, and cook regional specialities in language. In summer 2008, each of the 10 Language Schools hosted more than one hundred cocurricular activities outside the classroom. As Professor Michael Geisler, vice president for Language Schools, Schools Abroad, and Graduate Programs, explains, "This elemental aspect of immersion allows students to internalize the patterns of communication and cultural perspective associated with the target language while focusing on other activities than overt learning—truly, to live the language."

A break from the classroom and the books, the chance to take part in a signature cultural pastime—cocurricular activities also include residencies and performances by leading artists and intellectuals. Costs for visas alone can be stifling, but Italian School supporters like Kate Iacocca Hentz '81 and Ned Hentz '80, and German School supporters Alfred and Judy Zernik, parents of a German School alumna, help keep these cultural ambassadors coming. Here are just a few of them:

Arabic School
- Al-Sharq Ensemble
- Sinan Antoon, *Iraqi poet and filmmaker*

Chinese School
- Yeh Yu Chinese Opera Company
- Chinese traditional string musicians Wang Guowei, *erhu*; Sun Li, *pipa*; Susan Cheng, *yangqin*

French School
- Canadian Folk Band Le Vent du Nord
- Romuald Fonkoua, *Professor at the Institute of French Literature of the University Marc Bloch.*

German School
- Film director Peter Lilienthal
- Pianist-in-Residence Leo Erice

School of Hebrew
- Amir Milstein, *flutist*
- Alon Yavnai, *pianist and composer*

Italian School
- Vittorio Zucconi, *Washington correspondent for* La Repubblica
- Guglielmina Clarici, *master fresco artist*

Japanese School
- Rakugo (storytelling) performers Yanagiya Sankyo and Ryutei Saryu
- Film producer Takayo Nagasawa

Portuguese School
- Cape Verdian singer Lura
- Alberto R. Monteiro, *Professor of Biology, Universidade do Vale da Paraíba, São Paolo*
- "The Amazon Rain Forest and its Sustainability" lecture and photo exhibit

Russian School
- Folk Ensemble Zolotoi Plios
- Jazz and classical musicians Julian Milkis, clarinet; Daniel Milkis, *violin,*; Serafima Kustanovich, *piano*

Spanish School
- Pianist Francisco Alvarez Diaz
- "¡Que vivan los muertos!" parade and performance

Selected Endowed Fund Opportunities

Programs and Infrastucture

Arts
Art and Architecture Technology Fund $100,000
Performing Arts Series $2,500,000
Studio Art Support Fund $100,000
Theatre Production Fund $100,000

Athletics
Athletics Program Funds . . . . . open funds
Intramurals and Club Sports Fund $100,000

Environmental Leadership
Green Funds: Programming and Projects . . . . open funds

Library and Information Services
Acquisition Fund $25,000
Educational Technology Fund . . . . . open fund
Special Collections . . . . . open fund

Sciences
Faculty-Student Research Funds $100,000
Third Century Fund for Science Equipment . . . open fund

Student Life
Alliance for Civic Engagement . . . . . open fund
Co-curricular Arts and Performance Funds $50,000
Religious and Spiritual Life
Endowment for Jewish Life . . . . . open fund
Charles P. Scott Fund . . . . . open fund

PHOTO BY VLAD LODOABA '06

Middlebury student Rainey Johnson operates the Jasco J-815 spectrometer.

Lab Note

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU MATE (yes, that's the word) your Oxford SM4000 magnet/cryostat with a brand new JASCO J-815 spectropolarimeter?

For starters, you and your students can unlock the inner workings of certain cobalt-containing enzymes and their role in angiogenesis, the growth of new blood vessels from existing ones. There's potential in those findings for new drugs to treat cancer, heart disease, and rheumatoid arthritis. Then there's the problem of antibiotic resistance—with this equipment you can work on that, and the research that can help detoxify pesticide-laden fields, and the enzyme that can detoxify VX nerve gas the Army's interested in.

As luck—and funding—would have it, Middlebury is the only undergraduate college in the U.S. able to rock the combined powers of a magnetic circular dichroism (MCD)/circular dichroism (CD) instrument. Chemistry professor Jim Larrabee, one of four professors who use the MCD/CD notes, "The instrument is unusual, and while there aren't a lot of applications, for what we're doing you've got to have it." So unusual, he adds, that there are only five or six in the U.S., and those are at large research universities. So unusual that doctoral students and researchers come to Middlebury for weeks at a time—from Australia and Denmark—to collaborate with Larrabee and his students.

One of those students, biochemistry major Adam Volwiler '09 from Sammamish, Washington, has worked extensively with Larrabee on the MCD. They recently published a peer-reviewed article together and presented at an international conference in Austria. "Here at Middlebury we have access to something no other undergraduates do," he says. "We're collecting and analyzing the same data as Ph.D. candidates." For Volwiler, working with Larrabee on the MCD has fast-forwarded his ability to do science and to manage projects. "I love working with Jim," Volwiler says. "He gives students a lot of ownership for their projects, so, for example, I've already written and earned research grants."

Grants made it possible for Middlebury to offer these advanced opportunities. The College purchased the MCD—combined cost $180,000—with funds that grew from a Kresge Foundation endowment challenge grant initiated during the College's previous campaign. (Kresge committed $250,000 after the College raised an additional $750,000 from individual donors). In 2007-08, when the Science Endowment for the Third Century had grown sufficiently, the College purchased the magnet/cryostat ($104,000) part of the MCD and with a grant from the National Science Foundation the circular dichroism ($80,000) part of the MCD was purchased. They're gifts that will keep on giving. As Volwiler says, "I decided on Middlebury once I saw Bi Hall. It's a great place to do science."

PHOTO BY BRETT SIMISON

The World Comes to Vt.

Several times a week, the Rohatyn Center for International Affairs offers members of the Middlebury community the chance to learn about issues that cross the globe and the disciplines. For students and faculty, the experience is deepened by classroom and small-group access to the RCIA's visiting leaders. The RCIA Executive in Residence program extends that access for up to a week, during which leaders in international business and politics join in classroom and social group discussions and give career advice. The generosity of Elizabeth and Felix Rohatyn '49 keeps this corner of Vermont well connected to the world at large.

Sample Events:

- "Changing Perspectives: From Sherpa Culture to Social Justice" by **Frances Klatzel**, founder and chair, CORE International (Creating Opportunities and Resources for the Excluded).
- "The Evolution of the Post-Soviet Identity: In Search of the Russian Soul" by **Anna Vassilieva**, Professor and Russian Studies Program Head, Monterey Institute for International Studies.
- "Reclaiming the Future" by **David Lowenthal**, author of *George Perkins Marsh: Prophet of Conservation* and professor emeritus, Department of Geography, University College London.
- "Driving a Hybrid: Between Dictatorship and Democracy in the Modern World" by **Graeme Robertson**, assistant professor of political science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- "Democracy, Institution-Building, and the Rule of Law in Central and East Europe" by **Jan Macháček**, *Hospodarske noviny*, Prague.
- "Surrealism, Modernism, and Postwar Japanese Film Radicals" by **Jonathan Hall**, professor of comparative literature, University of California, Irvine.
- "The Immigrant Threat: The Integration of Old and New Migrants in Western Europe since 1850" by **Leonardo Lucassen**, professor of social history, University of Leiden, Netherlands.

ENTERING STAGE RIGHT

PTP's 2008 production of Sarah Kane's *Crave*, directed by Cheryl Faraone. *(L-R)* Adam Ludwig '93, Stephanie Janssen '97, Rishabh Kashyap '08, Stephanie Strohm '08.

HERE'S THE PLOT: young actors fresh from the theatre department of a liberal arts college in Vermont arrive in New York City. Like the throngs of aspiring actors already making the audition rounds, our young graduates are eager to make it. Fortunately, these graduates have an advantage in the professional theatre world that only that Vermont college out in cow country can offer.

Sound fictional? For 23 years, Middlebury's Potomac Theatre Project (PTP)/NYC has been proving it a fact. Middlebury, the only undergraduate liberal arts college with its own professional theatre company, gives its theatre students a passport to the professional theatre world during PTP/NYC's month-long New York repertory season of politically infused plays. Here they work alongside professional actors at a major Off Broadway theatre, and many even score a New York review. Justine Katzenbach '09, a PTP/NYC veteran who'll pursue acting after graduation, says, "The PTP helps you decide if you've chosen the right career path, and gives you a taste of exactly what it's like to work professionally." For lighting designer Laura Eckelman '05, now in the design MFA program at the Yale School of Drama, "PTP was a big break—my first Off-Broadway theatre." The internships and productions are made possible by Lea Hillman Simonds '69, whose support has given more than 200 students the chance to pursue their theatre dreams, meanwhile enriching the theatre centers of several major cities.

Cheryl Faraone, Middlebury professor of theatre and women's and gender studies, and Richard Romagnoli, professor of theatre, co-founded PTP along with Jim Petosa, Director of the School of Theatre at Boston University, and the trio shares directing turns. After two successful decades in Washington, D.C., "Faraone and Romagnoli moved PTP to New York's Atlantic Stage 2, part of Atlantic Theatre, an Off-Broadway company co-founded by playwright David Mamet and actor W. H. Macy. "The Atlantic is an active place that puts us on the audience's radar," says Faraone of PTP/NYC's new home.

Students are essential to PTP/NYC. They are the first auditioned and cast for each summer, followed by Middlebury graduates who aren't members of the Actors' Equity union, and then by Equity members, preferably Middlebury graduates. In June, the entire company rehearses in Middlebury for two intense weeks, forging an ensemble feeling rare in standard summer stock. "It was incredibly inspiring when Jan Maxwell, who's a huge deal on Broadway, played softball with us in the rain," recalls Willie Orbison '08.

Orbison's PTP/NYC summers have opened his eyes—and prospects. He's acted in full productions (to praise by *Variety*), and has presented his own plays in PTP/NYC's "After Dark" series of student-only plays that follow the main bill. "It's a sandbox for young artists," explains Faraone. "We provide the space, the tech, and the public." Orbison says of seeing his play performed by PTP/NYC to a full Off-Broadway audience, "I could appreciate how rare this opportunity was." He and PTP/NYC friends plan to form a company—the fifth Middlebury-born company in New York alone, and there are well-established creative clusters in Washington, D.C. and Boston. Fondly called "the Middlebury Mafia," this network of theatre alumni who write, direct, design, and act in each other's plays provides a real community—and professional heft. "A Middlebury degree is a noted credential," says Faraone, who regularly gets calls from casting agents.

PTP/NYC deserves applause all round, agrees *Variety*: "It gives aspiring young theatremakers a taste of big-league legit, and it keeps professionals rooted in the deep thinking of a classroom environment."
For a schedule of next season's program, see www.potomactheatreproject.org

PHOTO BY STAN BAROUH

class

DIRECTORS OF THE MIDDLEBURY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Susan Patterson Nichols '78, President ✷ Zachary A. Bourque '01, Vice President ✷ John H. Denny Jr. '85, Past President ✷ Kenneth G. Adams '82 ✷ Sara Bremner Barry '91 ✷ Maria C. Diaz '93 ✷ Gregory A. Frezados '90 ✷ Bentley C. Gregg '68 ✷ Carol Tonge Mack '95 ✷ Jason Adam Oleet '00 ✷ Jill L. Patey '98 ✷ Robert V. Sideli '77 ✷ Clark H. Smith '06 ✷ Robin Reilly Wagner '74 ✷ Damian L. Washington '03

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I have written to a number of you but the response has been small. **Dottie Maskell Henderson** writes that she is happy in her retirement home in Marlborough, Mass. It is much like the retirement homes that many of you live in now. Her hobby is reading when she gets the time. ✷ Another classmate has left us. **Eugene Tillman** died on August 16, 2008. We send our sympathy to his family. ✷ Just a note from your class notes reporter—please write!

—Class Correspondent: *Alma Davis Struble (Mrs. Robert), 147 West State St., Room 208, Kennett Square, PA 19348.*

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Our class now has 21 members, scattered across the country, with one in Europe. Fourteen live in the Northeast, three in the Midwest, one in Texas, two in Florida, and one in Germany. ✷ Our European classmate, **Hans Roepke**, although believing that "nothing of even the slightest importance to old Middleburians" had occurred to him lately, reported that he planned to take another trip to the U.S. this past September, hoping to visit Washington, D.C., Detroit, and Arkansas. He regretted that he would not be going to New England, where his "addiction to Uncle Sam's continent started." ✷ **Doris Downing Daley** belongs to not one, but three, bridge clubs. As if that doesn't keep her busy enough, Doris still drives and keeps up with her youngest grandchildren's activities. She now has five great-grandchildren and still lives in the same house where she has lived for several years. ✷ Yours truly, **Marsh Sewell,** has written and photographed his 60th travel article for his local paper since 2001. Most of the stories have been about interesting places to visit at the Jersey Shore, but we've also covered places in Vermont, Florida, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. One of the gratifying by-products: local camera clubs, garden clubs, and artists' guilds have scheduled trips to some of the nearby destinations as a result of our stories. ✷ Our sympathy is extended to **Paul Foster** on the death of his sister-in-law, Dorothy Dimm '40, whom we knew at Middlebury. Dorothy, who died in Middletown, N.J., in July, was the sister of Audrey Dimm Foster '39, Paul's late wife. ✷ Belatedly, we also just learned that **Sylvanus "Pete" Frohock** died in February 2006. Our sympathy goes to his family and friends.

—Class Correspondent: *Marshall Sewell, 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whiting, NJ 08759.*

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On September 21 I had a very interesting conversation with **Arne Bulkeley Beltz**, speaking from her home in Anchorage. We shared many thoughts about John McCain's choice of Sarah Palin for his running mate and she said many Alaskans were shocked when they heard the news. Arne said the first snow of the season was on the mountains—it's called termination dust, which means the end of summer. ✷ **Bob Matteson** moved a step closer to his goal of sweeping age-92 world track records when he ran the 800-meter in 5:11:26 at the Maine Senior Games in September. With other records achieved this year, including a 13:11 mile in July at the Colonie (N.Y.) Summer Track Meet, he now has five world records. He planned to run the NYC prestigious Fifth Avenue Mile as well. ✷ It was nice to learn that **Polly Overton Camp** spent many pleasant weekends at their cottage in Old Lyme, Conn., this past summer. She also enjoyed a family reunion with her three sons and their families. I also sent Polly the class picture taken at our 70th reunion in June so she could share it with **Betty Osborne Peelor**. Both Polly and Betty would have liked to be with us at the reunion if it had been possible. I wish you could have heard Polly's expression of delight when she called to thank me for the photo. Our class had the largest number (nine) to attend a 70th reunion. ✷ We had our Hall family reunion in July. Linda and Peter Roberts '67 had lunch with us one of the days. Peter is the son of **Ruth Flicker Roberts**, our classmate who died in 1999. ✷ In August I had the pleasure to be at a gathering of Midd alums to celebrate the 80th birthday of Carol Carleton Spooner '50 hosted by son Ned Hentz '80 and wife Kate (Iacocca) '81 at their house on Nantucket Island. My daughter Joanne Hall Johnston '67 and husband Chris were also there. ✷ News came of the death of **Graham Newell** on June 20. After sophomore year he transferred to the Univ. of Chicago. He told me he had grown up in St. Johnsbury, Vt., and felt it would be a good idea to experience a large city. His entire life after college was spent teaching at Lyndon State College and St. Johnsbury Academy. ✷ **Eleanor Barnum Gardner** and I continue to enjoy life at Wake Robin. We are always amazed at the vitality in this community. The many activities are all resident sponsored. As younger residents arrive, they often come forth with new suggestions and the next thing we know, another challenging and exciting activity has been added. ✷ It is greatly appreciated when classmates send news to me. If you enjoy reading class notes (which some turn to first), please remember that we also want to read news of you. I know many of you are active in volunteer or church work, and are traveling and reading. Let's share some of it and think of it as volunteering!

—Class Correspondent: *Mrs. Charles M. Hall (Margaret Leslie), 3312 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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REUNION CLASS

Please don't forget that our 70th reunion is June 5–7! ✷ **William Stoops** reports that his special activities in retirement are reading, walking, and skiing the slopes around a local golf course. He has been recently traveling in Spain. His roommate freshman year was the late **Scribner Dailey**, who spent a lot of his time practicing hockey shots in Starr Dorm. Unfortunately Bill will be unable to attend the 70th reunion of our class. ✷ **Thomas Murray** reports that wife **Gertrude Bittle Murray** resides in the nursing home section of the Elant Adult Home in Goshen, N.Y., and he resides at the adult home section so as to be close to her. They've maintained close connections with fellow classmates **Jeanette Olson Gould** and **Ruth Coleman Skinner**, and they still occasionally hear from **Thor** and **Carol Miner Gustafson**, **Roger Thompson**, **Bev Browning Gilbert**, and **Louise Roberts Avery**. Tom retired in 1985 as director of guidance in the Chittenden East School District in Vermont. After retirement he and Gert did work with the Chittenden Correctional Center's Literary Volunteers and they were active in church work. They also traveled to the United Kingdom many times. Tom spends many of his leisure hours doing watercolors. Tom enclosed a photocopy of one of his works. ✷ I recently completed a cruise on a small ship, which started in London. It sailed along the coasts of France, Portugal, Spain, and into the Mediterranean. I stopped at Bordeaux, Lisbon, Malaga, Gibraltar, St. Tropez, and Monte Carlo. In spite of all the wonderful aspects of the cruise, the most fascinating event occurred in London. I was advised to visit the Cabinet War Rooms, the underground complex where Churchill and the British government ran the war. It's down two flights of stairs. The complex includes a war room with all the maps of the war, and quarters for the cabinet, Churchill, and all the staff. After the war the officers in charge locked the complex and it was not opened for 15 years. Today it is as it was the day the war ended, a spectacle frozen in time. It contains seven or eight colored telephones, which could be used to contact the king, church heads, and the heads of the various armed services. ✷ I regret to report the deaths of **Suzanne Stalker Slocum** on May 14, 2008, and **Ralph Petrizzi** on December 5, 2007. Our condolences are sent to their families.

—Class Correspondent: *A. Roger Clarke (arogerclarke@aol.com), 7 Rundel Park, Rochester, NY 14607.*

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Another member of our class has been honored. **Sally Nothnagle Tefft** was named by the Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York last May as a "Woman of Distinction." She was recognized as a "Distinguished Trailblazer" for her "significant contributions to the community and her impact on the lives of those around her" and for serving as an "example for women of all ages." Sally has been the owner and publisher of the *Greenwich Journal and Salem Press* since husband **Richard Tefft** died in 1980. For the past dozen years or so, she has served as the paper's editor. She is proud of the fact that the *Journal* has never failed to publish since its initial issue on October 13, 1842. ✷ **R. C. Anderson** has been planting a tree on his

land in Vermont annually for a number of years. His customary time to plant is at Thanksgiving, but this year he advanced the date to that of his birthday, September 26. He estimates that about 50 people attended his party and that 40 packets of soil came from gardens as far away as California and Wyoming to nourish the new burr oak that they planted. In addition, he planted eight other trees, one for each decade he has survived so far. (By the time he reaches 100 he will have quite a forest as his legacy.) Everyone had such a good time at the party that they decided it should be an annual event and he wants classmates to know they are all invited. R.C. plans to stay 90 for every party. He and Lynn also issue a cordial invitation for all members of our class to visit them at their home in Belmont, Vt., either on their way to or on their return from our BIG CLASS REUNION June 4–6, 2010. This will be number 70 for us. We are all looking forward to seeing most of the surviving members of our class at that time.

—Class Correspondent: *Dr. Loring W. Pratt (roachpond@aol.com), 37 Lawrence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.*

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Correspondent **Margaret Shaub** reports: It was a most enjoyable experience talking to so many of you by phone, but I would urge you to drop us a line by way of keeping in touch. We love hearing from you! ✷ **Charlie** and **Doris Wolff Bartlett** took a six-and-a-half-week, 3,700-mile trip in their motor home last spring, enjoying visits with family from North Carolina to Maine. In addition to visits with daughters in these two states (and seeing 10 out of 12 grandkids!), they also spent time with Doris's sister and brother-in-law, Scott and Lenore "Putt" Wolff Eakeley, both Class of '43, in Westfield, N.J., and with Charlie's sister in Bennington, Vt. Doris is not volunteering anymore, but she continues to enjoy the activities in the retirement community where they live in Penney Farms, Fla. ✷ In Sarasota, Fla., **Gordie Brooks** still drives, but he is no longer playing tennis due to loss of vision in one eye. Otherwise, he's pretty healthy! He proudly reported one daughter is retiring from Dartmouth College as executive director of women's studies and daughter Lisa will soon retire from teaching art in Wilmington, Vt. ✷ **Edith Grimm Miller** belongs to 14 organizations, holding offices in six of them. She was vastly amused at having received her annual invitation to play in the alumni field hockey game at Middlebury. That's the spirit, Grimmy! ✷ **Wilton "Bud" Covey** is in reasonably good health in Middlebury. He derives much satisfaction from volunteering at Elderly Services, where he reads to the old people. His wife plays the piano and gets them singing. ✷ Another Middlebury resident, **Barbara Wells**, is interested in local Vermont history. At the Henry Sheldon Museum, she is a regular volunteer, helping visiting researchers to access the museum's extensive archives of original documents and records, particularly for Addison County. ✷ **Peg Wiley Thomson** is happily situated in an assisted living residence in Westfield, Mass., where she has a one-room apartment with a kitchenette. The folks are kind, the food is good, and she loves the freedom from responsibility. She talks often with **Jane Skillman Sara**. ✷ **Charlotte Miller Karr** spent two months last spring in Rowan Court Rehab in Montpelier after the restructuring of a hip, followed by a month at her daughter's family camp on Lake Champlain. Now at home, she is thankful she can drive once again. ✷ **Ruth Hardy Scheidecker** was thrilled to be able to attend the wedding of her grandson at the Presidio in San Francisco last spring. ✷ **Ruth "Packy" Packard Jones** learned that **Bill** and Pat Noe '44 **Bursaw** are now living in a continuing care residential community. Also in the community is **Barbara Grow Grim**'s widower, Bill, whom they see from time to time. Packy also spoke briefly with **Merritt Garland** who doesn't get to his camp very often but does see his children on weekends when they come to visit their mother, who is in poor health. She also reports that **Ginny Brooks Hutton** keeps busy with her computers. ✷ **Charlotte Gilbert Lightfoot** visited family in Dorset, Vt., last summer and included a stopover in that stronghold of Middlebury alums, Wake Robin Life Care Community in Shelburne. She and **Jean Connor** enjoyed recalling old times. ✷ In September Jean was invited by UVM's Fleming Museum to give a poetry reading of her work along with Middlebury's Gary Margolis '67, as part of the museum's poetry series. As a member of the audience, I felt very proud of our classmate's heartwarming and thought-provoking presentation, which was very well received.

—Class Correspondents: *Elizabeth Wolfington Hubbard-Ovens, 22 Inverness Dr., Apt. I-116, New Hartford, NY 13413; and Margaret Shaub, 159 Village Green Dr., Apt. 2, South Burlington, VT 05403.*

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After spending the summer in New Hampshire, I labeled it "The Summer of the Wet Towels." There was a lot of rain and nothing was ever dry! ✷ I was sorry to hear of the death of **Jack Bates** on July 16. He and **Nan (Rindfusz)**, who died in 2005, were loyal Midd alums and served several times as class secretaries, the last stint being for eight years. It was obviously a labor of love and they did the job well. Both were lively members of our class and were well liked. Our sympathy goes to the Bates children and other family members. ✷ I also learned of the death of **Theodore Ogden** on September 6. Our condolences go to his family as well. A memorial for him will appear in the spring. ✷ A news article in *The Hour* detailed a reunion of the Norwalk (Conn.) High School Class of February 1938 that took place last July. One of the attendees was **Theodore Russell**. A WWII story told about him said he "was the lieutenant of an engineering company that hit Omaha Beach on D-Day and proceeded posthaste to Antwerp where they cleared the harbor under a steady bombardment of V-2 rockets." He said it was more dangerous than Omaha Beach.

—Class Correspondent: *Joan Calley Cooper (joancc@earthlink.net), 3400 Laguna St., Apt. 321, San Francisco, CA 94123.*

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Correspondent **Ann Cole Byington** reports: **Marty Newton Van Gaasbeck** is happy with her new move to a retirement home. Her son is near enough for visits. Life has slowed down but activities at her retirement home are numerous. She has one great-grandchild. ✷ **Alice Landis Tonry** is busy raising dogs and Christmas trees. As we spoke, she had six collie puppies and 3,000 trees. She suggests to customers that they pick out a tree at Thanksgiving and put a decoration on it so they can reserve it and will recognize it when it's time to cut it down. ✷ Win and **Peggy Bowles Smith** were also busy with Christmas tree sales. She mulls cider for the customers to enjoy. She also prepares lunch for their helpers. Their daughter has twin sons and triplet daughters. Can you imagine having a possible five children at Middlebury! ✷ **Ginny Clemens Lowman**'s husband told us things are going well, but no long trips are planned in the near future. ✷ **Bing** and I visited **Skip Wilkin Dimond** this past September at her home on the sea. She was preparing to return to her retirement home (Evergreen Woods) in Connecticut. Her summer was very enjoyable with lots of company. ✷ Gordon and **Ginny Carpenter Halstead** have moved to the same retirement home as Skip. Their new address is 88 Notch Hill Road, Apt. 108, North Branford, CT 06471-1849. ✷ Correspondent **John Gale** reports: We regret to report the death of **Art Rasmussen** on September 3. After a highly successful career in the corporate world, Art and Joann retired to upstate New York, from where he devoted his energy to improving the lot of children both in the U.S. and around the world. Starting with two small local parent training programs, he then provided start-up funding for a family-support major at the Univ. of Chicago Graduate School of Social Services Administration. Concern about the decline of a civil society led him, as a board member of the Institute for American Values, to help form the Council on Civil Society, allied with the Univ. of Chicago, which spawned similar groups in the UK, Czech Republic, Canada, and Australia. Locally, he was involved in setting up a model "telecenter" with training facilities for teleworkers, a cybercafe and bookstore, and a computerized production and editing center aimed at creating employment opportunities in the depressed and stagnant Walton, N.Y., area. In addition to all this, Art remained a loyal supporter of Middlebury College. We send our condolences to wife Joann and the rest of his family. A memorial will appear in the spring issue.

—Class Correspondents: *Mrs. Ann Cole Byington, 290 Kingstown Way, Unit 275, Duxbury, MA 02332; and Dr. John S. Gale (jsgale22@comcast.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930.*

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REUNION CLASS

Arthur "Stod" Johnson sent a note about an article he began writing a couple of years ago called "A Freshman Adventure." He says, "It described my early fall weekend taking a hike up East Mountain (now called Robert Frost Mountain), spending the night on the tower that used to be there, and returning in time for Chapel on Sunday. I had photographs and a watercolor picture and had even bound it and put it on a disk. I found some more pictures that I wanted to add, pictures of the tower on the mountain taken from the Piper Cub airplane that Don Chapman '41 kept in Bristol where the high school is now located. (Don is a central part of the story; he took me flying two or three times.) Then last December my computer went out and I was unable to recover any stuff from my hard disk." He also has misplaced his hard copy, disk, and photos so he is determined to start over. ✷ **Ingrid Monk Stevenson** called to say she's planning to come to the 65th reunion. Please don't forget that Reunion Weekend is June 5–7!

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Ray Walch has volunteered to take on the job of class correspondent for men. We are still looking for a class correspondent for women. If you feel you could take on this position, please contact the alumni editor, Sara Marshall, at 802.443.5650 or smarshal@middlebury.edu. ✳ Sadly, we must report that **Ann Robinson Walker**, who served as the class correspondent for women for many years, passed away on November 22, 2008. Our sympathy is sent to her family and friends. A memorial will appear in the spring issue.

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We received a nice letter from **Betty Moulton Clark** from her home in Attleboro, Mass. Betty wrote in part about her long friendship with **Gladys Swift Seibert**, who passed away several years ago. Betty still misses her summer visits to Cape Cod (of course she does.) ✳ We received a nice newsy letter from **Leila Taylor Baggett** from her home in Jacksonville, Fla., recounting her activities and travels. She continues to be very involved with many church activities. One of her grandsons now attends the Univ. of Fla. in Gainesville, which, as you all know, is one of the most prestigious universities in the U.S. (Yeah, yeah, you think I just said that because our daughter is a professor in the school of nutrition at UF.) Leila talks about her recent trip in a U-Haul from Jacksonville to Kansas with her son, her grandson, and her great-grandson. One clever thing—her grandson rigged up a mirror on the back of the driver's seat so that her nine-month-old great-grandson could lie in the back and watch himself in the mirror. Kept him amused for days. ✳ **Nancy Rathgeb Smith** had lunch this fall with **Kay Craven**. We were not told what they talked about—or who. ✳ **Miriam Edmunds LeBaron** wrote from Stratham, N.H., that she is (understandably) proud of her seven great-grandchildren and her new Boston terrier puppy. She continues to travel with trips planned to San Diego, Virginia, and New Jersey. Mimi's thought for the day: "One good thing about being 84 years old; less peer pressure." ✳ We recently learned that Pete Harris '44, husband of **Barbara Busing Harris**, passed away on September 18. The class joins in sending condolences to Barbara and her family on their loss ✳ If our column seems a little sparse this time, it's only because we have heard from so few people. Keep us in mind for news, even trivial news. Your correspondents can make a story out of almost anything. Your classmates want to hear about you!
—Class Correspondents: *William and Janet Shaw Percival (wcpercival@aol.com), 9726 SW 195 Circle, Dunnellon, FL 34432.*

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There are three updates from previous reports: **Peggy Armstrong Igleheart** has to withdraw her invitation to classmates to visit her in Middlebury as she received notice of an opening in a Connecticut retirement community near her daughter where she hoped eventually to live, so she opted for it. New address: 200 Seabury Drive, Apt. 3121, Bloomfield, CT 06002. ✳ **Betsy Hornaday Fry** traveled in August to Ghost Ranch, a conference center of the Presbyterian Church, in Abiquiu, N.M., where she met daughter Lynn Agnew '73. After taking a week-long art course, they traveled around for a few days before going their separate ways. ✳ **Joanne Buckeridge Booth** left September 4 to spend a few days in Paris before joining Jeanne Badeau Barnett '52 for an Elderhostel boat trip around Italy. ✳ Our Western alums frequently get together. **Sally McCullough Sterritt** and husband Graham met **Floralie King Millsaps** and husband Frank for a weekend in Saratoga, Wyo. They found the countryside beautiful and visited an interesting small town on the North Platte River with hot springs where the Indians used to stop for hot baths. ✳ **Helen Swan Cawood** keeps busy going to Massachusetts often to visit relatives and to Delaware to visit her daughter and grandsons. They went to Tanglewood, summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, twice this past summer. The highlight of the year was attending the Alumni College at Bread Loaf. She says she's addicted to it. ✳ This past year **Bobbie Bates Lauterwasser** spent four months at their favorite hangout on Lake Kanasatka, N.H. Though a rainy summer, they had many nice visits from family and friends. One visit was from **Beverly Beach Grant**, whose daughter and son-in-law happened to be renting a cottage on the lake. The Lauterwassers didn't travel much in 2008 but hope to visit their son and daughter-in-law in their new home in St. Petersburg, Fla., sometime during the winter and maybe escape some New Hampshire snow. ✳ An e-mail from **Jinny Stowell James** indicated that they had a rough summer. Bill sustained a second-degree burn on his foot in late June and while they were at their summer home in Maine, developed an infection in it. After a lot of intensive care and emergencies, they packed up and returned to Connecticut so he could be treated by his own doctor. The one benefit was that he was able to finish his book and is now seeking a publisher. They were further saddened by the tragic death of their 27-year-old step-grandson. Our hearts go out to them in their loss. ✳ **Kathy Brittain Gose** finished her autobiography, a work of several years. One chapter deals with her experience at Middlebury during WWII. She notes three professors who were important to her: Ward Bedford who enriched her interest in choral music, Dan Dickenson who taught her the basics of how music is put together, and Alan Carter who introduced her to chamber music. They started her on a path that has enriched her life ever since. After grad school, Dr. Beers helped her get a teaching position at UVM. She now lives alone but is well looked after by her daughters and many friends and neighbors. Though arthritic bound and taking pills, she feels very blessed. ✳ **Ruth Barber Toner** has left her home in Swanton, Vt., and taken up residence in a wing of her son's home in Burlington, Vt. After country living, she finds the city very invigorating. Her only problem is what to do with all the things accumulated over the years, which still fill the Swanton home. ✳ **Victor Springer** and wife Ann are justifiably proud of their 14-year-old granddaughter. At the time of this writing, they had plans to go to Los Cabos, Mexico, to give their daughter and her family time off in a time-share, then visit them in their home in La Paz. They expected to enjoy Thanksgiving with them and other missionary families. The missionary families work with drug addicts, alcoholics, the homeless, and abused women, even taking them into their homes. Victor and Ann consider this real faith in action. ✳ We have lost two more classmates: **Mary Hamilton Dutcher** died July 20 and **Barbara Parker** died on August 12 reminding us not only of the fragility of life but of the long lives we have enjoyed.
—Class Correspondent: *Jeannette Atkins Louth (wmjalouth@comcast.net), 99 Depot Road West, West Harwich, MA 02671.*

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Tom Johnson visited the *Middlebury Magazine* office, carrying a paper he wrote in college that received "the only A+ I ever got at Middlebury." The paper was a story in the style of Washington Irving and was written for American Literature 21 taught by the late Howard Munford '34. ✳ Correspondent **Sandy Rosenberg** writes that he and Rita cruised to Alaska last July on the *Silver Shadow*. It only rained twice, once for four days and once for three. ✳ Sandy says he would be remiss not to thank **Bart Nourse** for the wonderful job he did as class co-correspondent for our class column for these many years. His service to our class and to the College was outstanding. ✳ Please keep those cards and letters coming in. Your classmates really enjoy hearing your news. ✳ Correspondent **Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness** reports: **Ann Cadmus McNamara** sent a letter the day she and Jim were celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary. They still live in lower Manhattan on the East River and are enjoying their retirement. This includes winters in southwestern Puerto Rico in a house they have owned for the past 30 years. ✳ **Charlotte Hoose Murphy** had seriously considered attending reunion but a recent pacemaker implant made the long drive plus the walking while in Midd seem somewhat overwhelming. Char still enjoys traveling, especially if she doesn't have to drive, and she booked a river cruise on the *American Queen* from St. Paul, Minn., to St. Louis, Mo., this past fall. ✳ Speaking of traveling, during the month of September several of our classmates were far from home: Bruce and **Patricia Malone Bothwell** were in the Colorado Rockies; and Roy '45 and **Bev Boynton Kinsey**, Norm and **Adele Stemmler Taylor**, **Jean Huey Smolens**, and **Betty Reid Buzby** were in Patagonia and Chile for two weeks. ✳ **Gloria "Georgie" Greenley Morgan** headed for Europe with one of her daughters for a two-week painting trip. Georgie still lives in Jackson, Wyo., but her nine grandchildren live all over the world. ✳ **Janet Goeltz Robinson** wrote from the Thousand Islands where she and **Dick** summer every year. As their stay this past summer began in mid-July, they didn't feel they could travel from North Carolina to Midd for reunion, return to North Carolina, and then travel back north again. They've enjoyed living in Washington, N.C., for the past 12 years but like going back to the Watertown, N.Y., area for several weeks every summer. ✳ From Modesto, Calif., **Elizabeth Reynolds Scherfee** reports she and her husband were busy going to grandchildren's graduations in Portland, Ore., and Boise, Idaho, just before our reunion and, after that, found they were "traveled out," so regretfully they decided not to come east. They live on an acre of land next door to their daughter and family where there is lots of activity—the children are involved in 4-H with chickens and goats as well as the family pets. Betty has started a knitting group at her church and they are providing many items for homeless women and children. ✳ The College was notified that **Barbara Vehling Bowles** died on June 3. The class extends condolences to her family. ✳ **Cynthia Strout Fischer** has been busy the past few years,

WAR STORIES

I NEVER FINISHED HIGH SCHOOL (but was granted a New York State "War Service Diploma") because I enlisted in the U.S. Navy two days before my 18th birthday and was called to duty on May 8, 1944. After boot camp I attended aviation electrician's school, specializing in servicing the gun turrets on Grumman TBF/TBM Avenger torpedo bombers. After being moved around on various assignments not related to gun turrets (the Navy way), I was finally shipped to Guam, the southernmost island in the Mariana Islands chain, to support the coming invasion of Japan planned for November 1945. There we moved into a new facility (Aviation Repair and Overhaul Unit #4 at U.S. Naval Airbase #939) on Orote peninsula high above Apra Harbor where all the ships were moored. The concept was that we would repair aircraft that were so heavily damaged they could not be repaired aboard ship. Of course the atomic bomb changed all that and I had nine months to wait until I would be discharged on Friday the 13th, June 1946. Because there was nothing to do while waiting, I volunteered to drive a tank truck at night eight miles into the mountains to fetch water from an artesian well. (We were told that there was no water on the peninsula since much of it was a coral outcropping). Drivers sat alone on the top of the truck until the truck's tank was full, making repeated trips until the airbase tanks were full—about midnight. One night I was sick and couldn't drive; the driver who replaced me was killed by a Japanese sniper who apparently didn't know the war was over. But for the grace of God I wouldn't be writing this! After that incident we had armed Marine escorts.

—ROBERT C. JACKSON '50

IN JANUARY OF 1943 I found myself at The Northampton Inn in Massachusetts, which had become a Navy Training School for WAVE officers (an auxiliary to the Navy Reserve). Happily, good friend Janet Lang (Krumm) '41 was in the same class. For 80 days we learned to type fast, how to march in lines, how important radio was to communications in all the services and how it worked, much information about the Navy, and details about the kind of work we would be doing. I do remember three exciting occasions: 1) Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the first lady of the land, visited classes and activities for a day and we were able to shake hands at a reception later; 2) for three days we were confined to quarters because the weather was so cold the southern midshipmen (as we were called) were getting frostbitten when we had to march to classes in other buildings; and 3) when we were given a weekend off, Janet and I hopped the train and went to Middlebury for a couple of days. We had a grand time—the women students were quite taken with our uniforms and gathered a group in one of the Forest Hall lounges to have us talk about women in the Navy, and the Dekes invited us to their dance that Saturday evening. In April we were pronounced ensigns and got to sew blue ribbons on our coat sleeves. Our jobs as Communication Watch Officers entailed overseeing the work of the teletype and radio rooms, and the people therein, where all the communications traffic was received, but mostly we were responsible for decrypting and encrypting incoming and outgoing messages which were classified and needed to be encoded. My first station was at a small operation on Cape Cod relative to the makeup of convoys in Buzzards Bay. Six months later, I was sent to the Naval Air Station in San Diego for the balance of the war—another two years plus. I lived in Coronado but I was in downtown San Diego one day, exiting a store through a revolving door, when I looked over and there was Bob Adsit '43. We had a jolly reunion and managed a dinner or two before he was shipped out. Ed Yeomans '42 was stationed at the Marines' Camp Pendleton some miles north of San Diego. We got together a few times—he with several friends, I with the proper number of Waves. One night eight of us had a big dinner with dancing at the beautiful Hotel Coronado on the island of Coronado. The party broke up late—we all knew but could not mention that the Marines were sailing a few hours later into what turned out to be the heart of the Pacific war—Iwo Jima, etc. Several months later, we happily and tearfully greeted them all (Ed and his three friends) back from the South Pacific. Ed's hair had turned white. It was truly exciting to meet friends from that little school in the hills of Vermont way out there in California. The war was over in August 1945. I made it home late Christmas Eve 1945 and was officially out of the Navy the next March.

—JOAN CALLEY COOPER '42

publishing books. She has two books of poetry out, *Life Poems* and *Poems from Pennsylvania* and two nature books, *Sierra*, about a cat who came to live with her, and *Swan Story*.

—Class Correspondents: *Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness (elizabeth.ness@verizon.net), 412 N. Wayne Ave., #109, Wayne, PA 19087; and Sandy Rosenberg (inspacepro@aol.com), 628 Commons Dr., Sacramento, CA 95825.*

49 REUNION CLASS

Correspondent **Rachel Platt** reports: Our 60th reunion is June 5–7. Make your plans now to come and share with your fellow classmates. Let's make it a banner year for our class in attendance. June is a beautiful time to be in Vermont. ✷ Thanks to several of you I have some news to report. **Jean Scroggie** writes that she and John Wichern have sold the Chapel Hill home they built 10 years ago and are happily settled in a "cottage" at Croasdaile Village Retirement Community in adjacent Durham, N.C. The coincidences with new friends there are often amazing. John Valentine, a professor who taught her social psych class at Midd in the '40s, lives there. He likes to call her "coed" so she calls him "prof." Small world. She also said that she is fairly sure she will be at reunion as John's grandson graduates the following weekend in Vermont. ✷ A sad note came from **Barbara Knapp Bull**. "My husband Wilbur (Dartmouth '46) died on June 4 from complications of Lewy Body Disease. All of our children were here for his final days to assist with his care and to provide companionship and music; a very sad but beautiful time." Our thoughts are with you and your family. ✷ I'm also sorry to report the death of **Margery Johnson Norton** on July 5. Our sympathy is sent to her family. ✷ In a recent telephone conversation, **Cornelia "Kennie" Higley Seidel** told me that 12 years ago, when husband Bob developed Alzheimer's disease, they moved into a retirement community just outside of Philadelphia. After a "happy and blessed marriage," he passed away five years ago. Her two daughters and four grandchildren live nearby and she is very active in her church on the altar guild. However, her most rewarding time is spent leading support groups for caregivers of Alzheimer's patients. She received a degree in psychological counseling 20 years ago from Penn State and certainly is using it in a very thoughtful and productive way. ✷ Correspondent **Bob Whittier** reports: **Chi Chi Barquin** has engaged in numerous activities since retiring from the CIA in 1972. Subsequent professions included teaching high school mathematics, chemistry, and drafting where he sent promising students to **Dix Hemphill**'s engineering firm for on-the-job training. ✷ **Jack Valentine** is now a bona fide gentleman farmer, having relinquished his chairs in a Boston area teaching hospital and a Russian venture. Jack maintains a herd of seven beef cattle, down from a peak of 50. Gathering and serving up hay is Jack's major concern nowadays. ✷ From Jackson Hole, Wyo., **Jim Barlow** writes that after getting his Ph.D. at the Univ. of Wyo., he engaged in geologic consulting in Casper. Jim and wife Ann live among 45 Midd graduates who suggest a big get-together. Let us hope that Jim and Ann join us at our really BIG 60th reunion in Middlebury in June. ✷ Sadly, I must report that **Bob Seixas** died August 16. Bob came to Midd in the fall of 1942 and soon became an important player in the Black Panthers, rejoining the band after serving in the Navy from 1943–1946. A steady and reliable classmate, he served in several capacities, including class treasurer. Bob will be remembered for his jovial manner, ready smile, and willingness to assist when asked. His roommate in Starr in 1942, **Dixon Hemphill**, sent this story: "Back in the early 1960s, while I was a Naval reservist, I received orders for two weeks of duty at the chemical warfare base in Anniston, Ala. We were living in Holden, Mass., at the time and I happened to tell Bob I was headed to Alabama. He asked if I wanted to fly in a Navy plane instead of going commercially. Of course I said, "Yes," and a few weeks later I arrived at Hingham AFB with my suitcase and Navy orders. The pilot, named Dave, was a reservist who lived in Maine and outranked Bob, so he captained the plane. When we were over Tennessee Bob took the controls from Dave and soon afterwards the engine started to sputter. Thinking one of the reserve fuel tanks they were using was empty, Dave switched to a second tank but unknown to either Bob or Dave, this second tank WAS empty. Bob suggested we all don our parachutes, which I did without hesitation. We flew only a few minutes with the engine sputtering but it seemed like an hour! Dave and Bob continued switching from one tank to the other until one of them switched to the main tank, which DID have fuel. The sputtering stopped and we flew smoothly toward

Anniston. When we were on the ground and in the Officer's Club, I remember Bob ordering us stiff drinks, mostly to calm MY nerves. Bob also moved to the club's piano and began rendering great tunes until it was time for dinner. I think what I remember most about Bob were his upbeat manner and his great sense of humor." The class sends its sympathy to Bob's family.

—Class Correspondents: *Rachel Adkins Platt (rplatt@rochester.rr.com), 34 Tobey Brook, Pittsford, NY 14534; and Robert P. Whittier (bbobwhit@aol.com), 35 Waldingfield Rd., South Hamilton, MA 01982.*

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Correspondent **Phil Porter** reports: **Jinny Orrall Albert** had news about monthly trips. "I did Pennsylvania in September, and the Natural Bridge in Virginia plus Woodrow Wilson's House in October. In November, it was the Biltmore in North Carolina and in December, the Greenbrier Hotel in West Virginia again. Pure luxury I can't do without. I had a wonderful visit to Newport, R.I.; to Lexington, Concord, Hyannis, and Martha's Vineyard, Mass.; and up to L.L. Bean in Freeport, Maine, this past July. I had a neat seatmate on one tour, a retired coal miner who looked like Clark Gable! I have pictures to prove it!" ✳ **Carol Carlton Spooner** celebrated her 80th birthday recently (probably a common occurrence among classmates). At the party on Nantucket there were 11 graduates of Middlebury in attendance. See the photo on page 67 in Celebrations. ✳ We heard from **Dick Barnes**, who retired from Allstate in December 1988 and started collecting Social Security. He gave news of the illnesses of various Middlebury friends (which we won't burden our readers with), commenting that "age" is catching up with everyone. ✳ Since retiring as a high school librarian in Fairfax (Va.) County, **Jacque Snyder Braddock** has been a Wednesday volunteer in the Central Rappahannock Library Service for 18 years—a large public library that serves five counties. She still lives in the country with five acres in the woods and much gardening. She and her husband took a wonderful 12-day cruise of the Baltic Sea—with excursions in eight different countries. She'd like **Lois Rapp McIlwain** to know she talks twice a week with Jane Miller Brouwers '49. ✳ **Anna Sherwood Young** and husband visited Ted and **Elinor Brown Phillips** at their home in Kingston, Ontario. "Ted kindly drove us all to Ottawa, a calm and beautiful city, where we stayed for a few days. We had made this same trip before, and the highlight both times was dinner at the cafe in the art museum: heavenly food and a window looking out on the Rideau Canal." ✳ In Canterbury, Conn., **Bill Stearns** and wife Mildred are long since retired from teaching (he taught physics); their children are all through college; and they like being with them and their five grandchildren. They enjoy living in the country, and he "spends a good deal of time every day still doing magic." ✳ We heard from **Ginny Ringo Cleary**: "I moved exactly a year ago to a retirement community called Edgewood, in North Andover, Mass. I'm 100 percent healthy, very ambulatory, and feel youthful and ready for whatever comes. My tennis group disintegrated, very much to my sorrow, but we play lively ping-pong games here; doubles being especially wild. I have taken up line dancing, which takes brain-work, memory, and fancy footwork, none of which I have, but it's fun exercise. I haven't started bridge here, but Scrabble suffices with less commitment. I have a plot in the community garden, which gets me pleasurably outside. We are delivered to museums, concerts, plays, or anything else anyone suggests, such as a trip to Hampton Beach for the sand sculptures. I haven't seen any '50 classmates this year, only keeping in touch by Christmas cards and e-mail. As for grandchildren ready for Middlebury, one grandson may apply for next year. Two grandsons have graduated from other colleges, and two granddaughters are freshmen at Roger Williams and UVM. Five grandchildren in the wings." ✳ **Leigh Wright** keeps relatively fit with walking, swimming, and gardening. He has two "new" eyes, 20/20, thanks to cataract surgery last summer. He works with the historical society during summers in Vermont and still has a courtesy post in history at the Univ. of Hawaii-Manoa during the winter, where he plugs away at writing on some projects in Asian history. He sends cheers and a big hello to classmates!

—Class Correspondents: *Lois Rapp McIlwain (wrappsody@aol.com), 6 Post Rd., Malvern, PA 19355; and Philip W. Porter (pwporter@verizon.net), Kendal at Hanover #203, 80 Lyme Rd., Hanover, NH 03755.*

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Tony Romano went to MIT after Middlebury and is now retired from a career in real estate development, enjoying Florida in winter, Rhode Island in summer. His sons were 1980 and 1984 graduates from Middlebury. His wife of over 50 years passed away a few years ago and he is now engaged to a longtime lady friend. He wishes us all well and looks forward to seeing us at our next reunion. ✳ **Joan Macklaier Birkett** wrote of her oldest son's sudden death of a heart attack in 2004. Joan had a heart attack a year later and received a stent repair after being flown to Calgary in an evacuation airlift from Fairmont, British Columbia. While on vacation in Vancouver a year later, pericarditis struck. All is well now and she has moved from outside Invermere, B.C., to a community in town. "Like the Phoenix rising," she said. She took a training program in coleading groups for chronic pain self-management organized by the Univ. of Victoria department of aging and she and friend Sylvia led two groups over 12 weeks at their local health center. She helps seniors at the local computer center and volunteers with eight-year-olds in an elementary school reading program. Son Tim, wife Lyn, and grandson Jon live nearby; daughter Jennifer and Clay are in San Francisco and visit often; daughter Eliza and Ted spread their gifts in music and photography and plan to travel to Asia for a year. Joan wishes us all good health, long life, and "a sense of wonder as we move into challenging times." ✳ **Barbara "Bobbie" Glenn Pempel** and husband have lived in Big Canoe in the north Georgia mountains for 20 years and still enjoy the wildlife—four-legged, that is, as in deer, black bears, and raccoons, among others. Their daughter is director of media relations for Fox Sports South in Orlando. They go to their oceanfront condo in Ormond Beach, Fla., for the holidays, and otherwise rent it out weekly or monthly. She still misses the New England snow, although they do get two or three inches occasionally. ✳ Correspondents **Bill** and **Phyllis Deming** enjoyed Alumni College at Bread Loaf in August. **John** and **Helen Reid Gilmore** were there and they and Bill had a chance to see the **Donald E. Axinn** '51 Center for Literary and Cultural Studies at Starr Library. It's a building to be proud of, designed with the future in mind—all the classrooms wired, rooms for audio and video work, and even dual flushes in the bathrooms! Then it was a step back in time going through the doors to the library and Abernethy Room as we knew them! A few weeks later Bill attended the Alumni Leadership Conference where he accepted on behalf of our class the Walter E. Brooker '37 Award for having the largest gift of a nonreunion class ($1,114,037, from 75 percent of our class). ✳ We are sad to report the deaths of classmates: **Helen Guernsey Bates** died on September 1 at her daughter's home while under hospice care; **Robert Patterson**, a Theta Chi at Middlebury and retired engineer from General Electric, died September 9; and **Abigail Haskins Bogie** died on September 25. We send deepest sympathy to the family and friends of our classmates. ✳ **Jean Maintain Higgins** writes, "It is with great sorrow that I write that **Jane Hyde Christopher** passed away after a short illness on September 16 in Atlanta, Ga. Jane was a great treasure of a friend, as a neighbor of mine just down the street in Newton, Mass., through elementary school and Newton High School; working together summers on Martha's Vineyard; and then on to Middlebury College, Class of '51. Jane and Ted were married the fall after graduation, first living in Barrington, R.I., then moving to Wellesley, Mass., where they raised their three children—Susan '76, Chris '78, and David '83—all graduates of Middlebury, as was her brother Don '48. Jane was extremely active in support of Middlebury as a trustee, the national chairman for Annual Giving for the College, class secretary, and co-chair of our 25th reunion, which coincided with daughter Susan's graduation—talk about busy! We were very fortunate to be able to get together with Jane and Ted at least once a year for a few days either in summer at our cottage in Rockport, Mass., or at their condo in Atlanta in cooler weather—most recently last February on our way back from three weeks in Florida. Jane was active and enthusiastic. Her death was unexpected, and she will be sorely missed." A memorial will appear in the spring issue. ✳ We had so much news, some will appear in the spring issue. Thank all of you for your responses to our notes. They're a blessing to receive amidst the junk mail! Will you also send us any e-mail changes so our list remains up to date? Thanks.

—Class Correspondents: *William and Phyllis Cole Deming (bding@verizon.net), 143 Marsett Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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Correspondent **Ken Nourse** reports: E-mail from **Bill Trask** only had news about Worcester Tech, where he is still quite active in the Old Timers Club. He mentioned an entering first-year at Tech was a preseason D3 All-American football player—a first for WPI. He applied to Midd but did not make it through admissions. Bill is following John McCardell's activity vis-à-vis the attempt to renew the discussion to lower the drinking age to 18. ✳ I had a great phone conversation with **Ed McAleer**. He has lived for 42 years in the same house in Berwyn, Pa., where he worked as a manufacturers' rep. He's enjoying good health and volunteering through Meals on Wheels and at Red Cross blood drives. He missed our 50th but is looking forward to no. 60. ✳ **Jack Mann** lost his wife last fall and is still working his

way through the attendant grief. He lives near Vermont Yankee in Vernon, Vt., but seems nonplussed about a nuclear reactor in his backyard. He's very active with the Vermont Jazz organization and participates in a jazz camp held at the Putney School, which attracts 60 or so jazz buffs from around the world. He splits his time between Vermont and Florida where he has condos in Bradenton and Pensacola Beach. The latter is primarily a rental. ✳ I was pleased to receive an e-mail from **Jack Varney** whom I thought was "lost" in the alumni files. He and wife Becky are living in the San Diego area. They and family members took a bare-boat sailing charter in the Caribbean on three boats and celebrated last New Year's Eve at the Bitter End Yacht Club in the British Virgin Islands. He says it was quite a reggae party guaranteed to recharge the batteries. Obviously, Jack, you are enjoying good health and that's what we like to hear. ✳ Here in town there was a **Paul Bock** sighting at the Alumni College. Glad to hear he is ambulatory and able to keep on learning. ✳ Let us hear from you once in a while. Have you noticed that the older we get, the faster the time goes! ✳ Correspondent **Barbara Cummiskey Villet** reports: As you know, our esteemed professor of American literature, Howard Munford '34, died this past summer. I had been to see him only two weeks before his death and he insisted we keep to our ritual of going out to a lunch together, which has always begun with a Beefeater martini. Howard was as intellectually sharp as ever over that lunch, talking books, poetry, and politics, yet when it was over and we were making our careful way to my car, he remarked that we had done what needed to be done—accomplished a fitting end to a long friendship. It was one that had lasted from my first Am. lit. class sophomore year. I was among those at the service for Howard in the Weybridge Cemetery. As daughter Martha and son David '72 spoke briefly beside the Munford headstone, my eyes wandered to the memorial directly behind it; it was the family stone of Doc Cook '24. In death as in life, the two brilliant colleagues were close to one another and a rich raft of memories of both flooded in. ✳ Picking up the phone recently, I found myself renewing friendships with old friends, among them my postgrad roommate at Radcliffe, **Jeanne Koelsch McGee**. Jeanne's voice was instantly recognizable and so were her energy and spirit. Since Hal's death four years ago, Jeanne has rebuilt her life around family. Prompted by their four kids settling in and around D.C. and Virginia, she and Hal had moved from Shelter Island to Williamsburg, Va. Now that she's close to all of them and her grandkids, she moves about visiting and has one grandson at William and Mary who visits her each week to do his laundry! (Remember those laundry boxes we sent home to our overburdened mothers back when?) For Jeanne, the proximity of the college provides riches culturally as well and she stays busy with events, despite a recent total knee replacement. ✳ In New Hampshire, **Connie Stowe Leathers** also joined the bionic women's group with a hip replacement. It did reduce her downhill adventures on skis but little else. She's near Sunapee and so enjoys kayaking in summer and cross-country skiing in winter, with long walks in the woods between and lots of happy singing in a choir to round out a busy life. She has the privilege of having five kids and 13 grandkids, the youngest who is just one, nearby.
—Class Correspondents: *William Huey (judgebill@hargray.com), 6 Barony Lane, Hilton Head, SC 29928; Ken Nourse (gumpk@comcast.net), 22 Little Pond Rd., Middlebury, VT 05753; and Barbara Cummiskey Villet (villetb@sover.net), 208 Eagleville Rd., Shushan, NY 12873.*

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Nancy Watson Blandin worked for GE after graduation and met her husband there! They have two sons and six grandchildren. Happily, one family lives in the same city, West Seneca, N.Y., and Nancy sees them often. The other son and three children are in Louisville, Ky., so visits are less frequent. Nancy says retirement agrees with her! ✳ **Bill** and **Ann Austin Brackett** have relocated from Castle Rock to Lone Tree, Colo., closer to Denver and 1,000 feet lower. Initially, they lived on Cape Cod, then spent 30 years in Chicago. They also lived in the United Arab Emirates, raised two sons, and retired in 1996. At one point, they questioned what difference they were making in the world so they became volunteers in mission and spent a year in Utah helping to establish a new church. The new church building was dedicated in November. They also worked with Heifer International, helping to improve the quality of living in poorer countries. They wanted to attend reunion, but health issues intervened. ✳ **Martha Ladd Allee** hoped to get to our 55th reunion, but sadly, her husband became seriously ill and died. Our sympathy is with her and her family. Marti has given up her home of 40 years and moved to a retirement community in Ithaca, N.Y. She taught children with special needs in middle school and now she's an active volunteer in a program to give books to children—the program has given away 30,000 books! Marti says hello to everyone. She has been in touch with **Anne Coleman Zehner** and **Pat Pattyson Eckley**. ✳ **Sandy Sheffield Overton** also sent sad news about husband Ray, who died of lung cancer on June 9. Diagnosed in November 2007, he put up a good fight until the end. Sandy luckily could keep him at home until he died. She is slowly beginning to get her life back together and hopes that reunion went great. ✳ **Dorothy Gill Bramley** had a great time at our 55th. She's living in Mashpee, Mass., near the bridge to Cape Cod. She relocated to an active retirement community where there are numerous activities including bridge, which she especially likes and plays a lot. She says she has enjoyed a Hawaiian cruise. As we reminisced, she expressed special memories of summertime in 1960 in West Dennis, Mass., where she had a lovely perennial garden and visitors all summer. Happy times! ✳ From Staunton, Va., **Janet Nutt Lembke** spoke of her love of gardens and her happy experience of being a certified Master Gardener these past three years. She led a group of eighth grade Scouts in cleaning up a garden and restoring it. Janet published *Because the Cat Purred* about how we relate to other species and why it matters. Her current book, no. 19, a memoir called *I Married an Arsonist,* is in the process of being published. Janet has been in touch with **Anne Schafer Edwards**, **Sarah Pettibone Dabney**, and **Nancy Drummond Kiger** and sends regards to all. ✳ Our lovely musician, **Debbie Ellis McIntire**, lives in Tennessee. She had a stroke eight years ago and lost her ability to sing, but she hasn't let it get her down and says she's happy! Her marvelous husband, Don, is healthy and they take classes at the Alliance for Continued Learning; one class was about storytelling. They have three sons in New England, New Jersey, and Minnesota, and a daughter who has moved to Tennessee. Often, Debbie and Don get in their car to "just go somewhere" and enjoy the lovely freedom of retirement! ✳ Years ago, **Pat Brown McClearn** worked for a Colorado rehab hospital in public relations. Still in Colorado, she stays as young as ever with traveling, hiking, trekking, skiing, grands, and doing good works. She traveled six months in Europe, then lived a year in Italy. She's been to Nepal and Vietnam to assist in a Himalayan Dental Relief Project. She has served on the Colorado State Parks board and also is active in politics. ✳ It has been such FUN to call classmates and hear what everyone has been doing. There was so much news, the rest will appear in the spring issue.
—Class Correspondent: *Janet Bradley Harris (drharris52@aol.com), 1 North Ridge, Ballston Lake, NY 12019.*

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REUNION CLASS

Correspondent **Tom Ryan** reports: Hurricane Ike hit on September 12 and I went for over two weeks without power. The wind picked up at about 9 p.m. on Friday. By 3 a.m. on Saturday it had increased to 110 mph in a steady, screaming roar. By 9 a.m. the next morning it was over and groups of us were out cleaning storm drains and clearing the streets of fallen trees. We lost a very old, very large white oak tree that missed most of the house and caused only minor damage. In our heavily wooded neighborhood, however, many others were not so fortunate. One of the lingering problems was the lack of power to about 50 percent of the traffic signals. Driving in Houston was more of an adventure than ever. ✳ I spoke with **Spiro Gokas**, who lives in Newport, N.H., and who retired after 38 years in the teaching profession. When asked whether children had changed much during his tenure, he said, "The children haven't changed but the environment in which they operate sure has." We spoke about Hurricane Ike and about the hurricane that hit Middlebury in the fall of 1950, and how we helped the farmers dig cattle out of the barns that had collapsed on them. Spiro is catching up on much of the reading he had planned to do in years past. He's also taking care of the family home (circa 1880) and exercising regularly. He sounds good. "I should; I haven't worked since '95!" He plans to attend the 55th reunion. ✳ I had a nice conversation with **Elinor Brown Walker**, who lives in Waterbury, Conn., and who recently left the mortgage banking business. She took me through some of the factors that have led to our current credit problems. It was fascinating! Elinor's four children are all good tax-paying members of society. Two are in Maryland, one in nearby Hartford, and one in Manhattan (where she is a social worker—wow!). Elinor spends time with all her children and each summer, as they have for years, they spend a week together on Lake Dunmore. She still does her one to two miles a day, five days a week, at a track. She sounds terrific! ✳ **Arne Heggen** and I talked about our knees (and other low joints). He had both of his replaced at the same time, his thinking being that if he did them individually, he might not go back for the second. I'm not sure I can do that. Arne has spent most of his career as county attorney for Saratoga County, N.Y., where he was an adviser to the board of supervisors. He and his wife have four children, two of whom graduated from Middlebury. One, a

daughter, is an attorney in the district attorney's office in Saratoga County, while his Middlebury son is a physician's assistant in Burlington. Another son is a CPA living nearby, while another daughter lives in Ohio. Arne retired in 1995 and continues to spend a little time in Florida each year at a house his family has owned since 1955. Although his knees are now okay, he has cut out skiing, a sport that he and the rest of his family truly enjoyed. He expects to attend the 55th reunion. ✳ Correspondent **Nancy Whittemore Nickerson** reports: **Sally Green Risberg** is co-chair of the Osher Lifelong Learning Program in her community in Santa Rosa, Calif. Working with Sonoma State Univ., they are bringing college-level academic courses right into their retirement village. They had almost 1500 students last year and it is a resounding success. Don and Sally had a trip to Norway last May, going deep-sea rafting up in the Arctic Circle and loving it. ✳ **Jane Ann Cole Miller** says, "I lucked out with a wonderful course in Contemporary Japanese Novel at Alumni College over Labor Day and the pleasure of finding that **Marcia Kraft Goin** was in the same class! We were the only ones from '54 and I do encourage others to come to this stimulating long weekend next year. Bread Loaf is a treat and we often have good weather and always delicious food." ✳ While at their summer home in Winter Harbor, Maine, **Chuck** and **Maureen Kane Steinecke** had lunch with Paul and **Mary Moreau Cowan** in Camden and also took in two art exhibits in Southwest Harbor by Middlebury grads—one by the late Alan Gussow '52 and the other by our own **Erica Child Prud'homme**. Erica has been painting in Maine since childhood and also exhibits in NYC. The Steineckes were planning to add a cockapoo to their family. ✳ While Ike was battering Houston, Nick and I were at Bread Loaf for the Alumni Leadership Conference—the lectures, panels, and correspondents' workshop were all excellent as was the food, camaraderie, and scenery. Also attending were Louise and **Bert Welling**, representing the Cane Society. We drove down to the campus and were properly impressed with the new Axinn Center at Starr Library—they have kept the best of the old and added new wings. Check it out when you come to our 55th reunion June 5–7. Middlebury is *alive* and *flourishing* and you need to see it for yourself!

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We had so much news that some will have to appear in the spring issue! **Stu Bacon** writes, "Retirement life, besides offering travel, pursuing my photography interest, seeing children, and watching grandchildren grow, has given me a labor of love. Twice a week I put on a hard hat and a tool belt and build houses for Habitat for Humanity. I've been doing this for 10 years and have put in between 400 and 500 hours a year. Most regular volunteers like me come from a nonconstruction background so we learn together. I have always enjoyed working with tools but never expected to roof a house, build framing for walls, install Sheetrock, set up furnaces, or put up gutters and downspouts. I can attest to the saying that 'One is never too old to learn something new.' The actual building is a great experience but the real joy comes at the dedication of a finished home when the keys are given to the new owners. We volunteers take pride knowing that we had a big part in building a home for a deserving family." ✳ **Polly Smart Weck** has retired from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and lives just outside Washington, D.C. After retirement, she formed with a friend a nonprofit called Bailey's Beautification Alliance. They raise money to beautify public spaces like median strips, parks, and libraries and hold Arbor Day celebrations and community cleanup days. Polly is also on the board of the Bailey's Crossroads Revitalization Corporation, which is a nonprofit charged with advising Fairfax County (Va.) on revitalization projects in her commercial district. Polly belongs to two book clubs and spends a lot of time gardening. She and husband Egon have one son, "married to a wonderful lady and father of twin girls who are thirteen, smart, and beautiful." Polly and Egon participated in Alumni College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. There were about 22 alumni there, including **Midge Van Leuvan**, all enjoying the program and sometimes the weather. The horse races that were part of the program were canceled after a torrential downpour washed out part of the track, something that has only happened once before in the history of the track. ✳ After 22 years of working as a library media specialist and years of traveling to exotic places for scuba diving, **Sylvia Metcalf Norton** has settled in the hamlet of Upper Jay, N.Y. Not only does Sylvia have the great pleasure of living in the home of her great-grandparents but she is also in the heart of the beautiful Adirondacks. Sylvia volunteers as a fund-raiser and grant writer to support the library in her small community of 500 inhabitants. Living close to Lake Placid and Whiteface Mountain, Sylvia continues to ski. ✳ Living on the opposite side of the country, **Janet Davis Newman** is in Del Mar, Calif. Janet, retired from nursing, moved to Southern California to be near her grandchildren and children. She loves the California perfect weather and swims in the Pacific year-round. Now that she has just acquired a dog, she finds her vacation time somewhat limited. Janet is concerned about the number of foreclosures around her area, however, which might be a reason for moving back east. ✳ The Denver Art Museum awarded **Sidney Brock Gates** the prestigious 2008 Cile Bach Award as the outstanding volunteer of the year. Sid started as an exhibitions and collections services volunteer right after graduating from Middlebury as a fine arts major. Over the 50 years of volunteering at the Denver Art Museum, Sid has done everything from painting and laying tile on the floor in the early years to riding a bicycle built for two into downtown Denver to return the bike, which had been on display, to its owner. Mostly her work now is hands-on projects like building display boxes. Sid's award is very meaningful. She was selected from the 400 volunteers who now serve the internationally recognized museum. ✳ **George Limbach** is once again organizing the annual Midd '55 Vail Ski Week. The 2009 Ski Week is scheduled for Feb. 21–28. Contact George at George.Limbach@dlapiper.com if you're interested.

—Class Correspondents: *Sally Dickerman Brew (sdbrew1@mindspring.com), 629 Benvenue Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024; and Thomas J. Lamson (tjlamson@verizon.net), 92 Heath Rd., North Andover, MA 01845.*

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Durham Cathedral in northern England was the site of a weeklong residency in August for **Lynne Atherton**'s choir from the Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, Ill. (Her partner Fred Chase was among the 15 "choir groupies" also enjoying the experience.) In a 900-year-old tradition, the choir sang daily services. They also made day trips to such places as Holy Island, Alnwick Castle (a.k.a. Hogwarts), and Hadrian's Wall. Her other recent excitement, vicariously, is a $43-million grant from the Gates Foundation to Heifer International, with which she continues her affiliation as an ardent volunteer. ✳ **Dick Brigham** is celebrating 20 years of retirement and continues to travel about in his motor home, having given up boating. ✳ From **John Chase** we heard: "We are well, active, and all parts work. Being an Am. lit. major, I think life is a book and we are nearing the last chapters. One entitled 'safe harbor' is under discussion and we plan to move to an active retirement community before year-end. We look forward to travel, family, and friends in a new setting here in Marin County (Calif.)." ✳ **Joan "Jody" Newmarker Crum** writes, "We've had another wonderful year of travel, taking groups to the Rose Bowl Parade, Branson, Mo., lilac time at Mackinac Island, Mich., and on a canal tour of the Netherlands at tulip time. But the granddaddy of all was our personal celebration of 50 years of marriage (and a childhood dream) at the enormous and gorgeous Iguassu Falls in the corner of Brazil and Argentina, then sailing from Rio down one side of South America, off to Antarctica, and back up the other side to Santiago, Chile. Our newest grandchild will be born in Portland, Ore., so we have children coast to coast! We feel very alive at this advanced age!" ✳ A special note from **Judy Phinney Stearns**: "We are so very saddened to learn that two dear classmates, **Judy Hastings Dresden** and **Helga Neuse Whitcomb**, passed away this summer. We remember them as vibrant, smart, independent-thinking, and lovely ladies. They will truly be missed." ✳ We also learned belatedly that **Barbara Mackinnon Warner** passed away on March 31, 2005. When one of our classmates passes away, you are welcome to submit thoughts and remembrances of them to share through this publication. ✳ **Tobey Shiverick** reports, "While the world financial markets gave new meaning to 'bail out,' **Bob Vuillet**, Doris Reeves, Evelyn and **John Hoops**, **Joe Manson**, and I met for a week in the seriously precipitous town of San Gimignano in Tuscany, Italy. We shared a spectacular villa in a tower just off the main square. San G. is truly a town of ups and downs—42 steps to reach the first floor of the villa and 40 more to access its three floors of wondrous views. John and Bob drove us to Florence, Volterra, Siena, and La Spezia through narrow streets and hairpin turns. The battle between great food and steep hills was a dead heat. I weighed just as much after the trip as I did before. I flew to Paris a few days before meeting the others in order to take a one-day tour of the landing beaches in Normandy. I highly recommend it." ✳ Have a wonderful winter, and stay healthy, safe, and happy. Dick and Judy .

—Class Correspondents: *Dick Powell (repowell55@comcast.net), 13518 Ryton Ridge Lane, Gainesville, VA 20155; and Judy Phinney Stearns (jashill@vermontel.net), 53 Carriage Dr., Glastonbury, CT 06033.*

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Merrill Mack visited Leipzig, Germany, where the glee club he sings with participated in a choral festival. Nineteen choral groups from the U.S., England, Germany, and Switzerland participated and, in addition to performing individually, the choral groups performed several numbers from Mendelssohn's *Elijah* in a massed chorus of over 500 singers. The concerts were held in various churches and cathedrals in Leipzig. Merrill's group also visited Dresden, Munich, and Dachau for sightseeing. It was a terrific time. ✳ Remembering math professor Donald Ballou, who died in September in Middlebury at age 100 (an even number divisible by 4!), **Gail Bliss Allen** recalls that our class had only four female math majors. Gail always had the feeling that the professor didn't think she should be in his math class. ✳ **Gail Parsell Beckett** remembers Dr. Ballou "as a quiet, unassuming gentleman, who fortunately graded some of our exams on the curve." ✳ **Ann Eckels Bailie**, another of the math majors, is in her 23rd year working for H & R Block. She and Bill enjoy spending holidays with their family—Thanksgiving in Colorado, Christmas in Minnesota, and New Year's in Kentucky. ✳ **Holly Goodhue VanLeuven** reports, "I'd like to say that I was deeply involved in a political campaign in the past unique election year. However, that was NOT the case! Instead, I was deeply involved in packing up and relocating to Scottsdale, Ariz., after 54 years of having Michigan serve as home base. My new address is 7650 Via Camello del Norte, Scottsdale, AZ 85258. I would love to hear from anyone visiting the Scottsdale area as I love Arizona and would be delighted to share it with you. I'm also planning to visit Dubai and Singapore early in 2009." ✳ **Don Sanders** described a summer trip to renew friendships with classmates. He, wife Margaret, and golden retriever Charlie visited **Xanie Post Koontz** in Connecticut, and **Jim Wagner** and **Charlie** and **Pat Judah Palmer** in Massachusetts, where they enjoyed good golf, good food, good theater, and of course VERY good stories and laughs about old times. ✳ Summer travel took Bill and **Cathy Rock Fallon** to Saratoga Springs, N.Y., for the wonderful Alumni College program featuring the Philadelphia Orchestra. ✳ Ron '56 and **Kathy Platt Potier** traveled to East Boothbay, Maine, in August with 19 family members from points east, west, north, and south to celebrate 50 years of marriage. ✳ Bob and **Lee Hall Albern** spent a week in the Galápagos Islands with their third granddaughter, Caroline, getting up close and personal with blue-footed boobies, sea lions, marine and land iguanas, Sally Lightfoot crabs, sea turtles, penguins, and MORE. Each of the volcanic islands is unique with its own wildlife and flora, demonstrating how Charles Darwin developed his concepts of natural selection and survival of the fittest. ✳ **Sue Lehman Andrews** still teaches riding at Merriwood Ranch Riding Camp in Richardson, Texas, which also has a nine-week summer camp with swimming and tennis. Her joy is lake fishing up on the Oklahoma border. Her daughter and three grandchildren live nearby, and her son and granddaughter live in Fort Collins, Colo. ✳ Also in Texas, **Bill Burgess** is still active with his two disaster relief programs (UMCOR and CERT) in Arlington. He's writing memoirs for his children about his years working with and sailing on historic vessels. ✳ In Bradford, N.H., **Sylvia Griswold Dow** and her husband are phasing out of their used-book business. ✳ When she wrote, **M. E. LaPierre Rhea** commented that they were fascinated by the election campaigns and horrified by the economy. "Unlike most people we know, we are also awaiting the imminent arrival of a new grandchild!"

—Class Correspondents: *Gail Bliss Allen (gballen@comcast.net), 1500 4th St., Apt. 15, Sacramento, CA 95814; and Kathy Platt Potier (rkpotier@verizon.net), 1945 Park Plaza, Lancaster, PA 17601.*

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Mary Roemmele Crowley was featured in *Her*, a magazine for Vermont women. The article talked about her years of teaching art (including one year when she taught 1,400 children in five different public schools!); her children's book, *I Love To Visit My Grammy*; her work on community projects such as All Aboard Rutland, the decorating of wooden trains, and Art Fits Vermont, the decorating of wooden and paper jigsaw puzzle pieces for exhibition; and her roles as host and producer of *The Art Show* on community television in Rutland. ✳ Walter Crump '55 called the College to say that Baroness Jacqueline de Gunzburg, the mother of **Jean-Louis de Gunzburg**, had died. Our condolences are sent to Jean-Louis and all his family. ✳ With heavy hearts we must also report the deaths of several classmates since many of us met at reunion. **Joseph Lee** died on August 25, **Roger Steeves** died September 16, **Peter Honegger** died October 12, and **Lee Blodgett** died on October 19. We also learned that **Carol Waldorf Lohr** died on August 19. Her family has established a scholarship fund in her name. If you would like to make a contribution in Carol's memory, please send a check payable to Middlebury College and indicate in the memo line that it is a gift for the Carol Waldorf Lohr '58 Scholarship Fund. You can send it to Brenda Currier, Gift Administration, Old Courthouse, 5 Court St., 5370 Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. Memorials for these classmates are in this issue or will be in the spring issue.

—Class Correspondents: *Joseph E. Mohbat (jmohbat@msn.com), 551 Pacific St., Brooklyn, NY 11217; and Ann Ormsbee Frobose (aspof@sbcglobal.net), 2370 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566.*

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REUNION CLASS

Frank Heffron retired in 1999 after practicing law for 37 years in New York and Massachusetts, in various fields from civil rights, to banking, to municipal law. He and Margery then moved to Exeter, N.H., where Frank was a candidate for state representative this past year. During the same year he was also an activist in the Obama campaign, serving as a member of the New Hampshire Seacoast Regional Steering Committee in that campaign. ✳ "Life is wonderful here," **Lucille Beckman** says of Crested Butte, Colo., where she has lived for 14 years. The area offers spectacular scenery, with excellent hiking and downhill skiing nearby. Before moving there she lived in Cambridge, Mass., in Puerto Rico, and for many years, in Burlington, Vt. Lou, who formerly owned a graphic-design business, designed the covers of our 50th and 25th reunion yearbooks. Her current interests include photography, especially of wildflowers; community volunteering; and playing bridge. She has stayed in touch with **Roxann MacDonough Giddings**, who serves on the board of the Ipswich (Mass.) Historical Society. Until recently a member of the Massachusetts Trustees of Reservations, Roxy also does gardening and bookkeeping for the Society. She enjoys hiking, working in her own garden, and singing in an Episcopal church choir. Her son is a rock/jazz musician; her daughter a bassoonist. Roxy enjoys frequent visits with grandchildren living nearby. ✳ In Houston, **Stuart Purdy** survived Hurricane Ike, but lost four large trees and has a hole in his roof. He states that his neighborhood looks like a war zone, and that he "lost ten pounds with all the stress" but has "committed to replacing them as soon as possible." ✳ **Ann Turenne Barclay**, of Searsport, Maine, is a therapist and has a practice in Belfast. With her husband, a retired minister, she enjoys traveling and visiting family members. ✳ **John Halpin** continues to practice law in NYC and Pennsylvania. He enjoys spending time with son John '90, daughter-in-law Danielle, and grandson Alex. John and Martha look forward to our 50th. ✳ **Carol-Ann Macristy Barlow** reports, "I am still showing quarter horses." She also enjoys spending time with her six grandchildren. ✳ Pat and **Fred Swan** have been keeping up their usual active schedule, spending a week on a boat in the Caledonian Canal in Scotland and a week hiking in northeast England last August. ✳ **Dorothy Dever Frost**, of Bradenton, Fla., golfs, plays tennis, and sings in a church choir that recently did a European performance tour. Dottie cofounded an English as a Second Language program in a church in her area, because of the number of immigrants needing help with English. She enjoys traveling and visiting old friends and family members, including her nine grandchildren. ✳ Son Kevin called to say his parents, Gordon and **Pamela Payne Lewis** had received the prestigious Faculty Service Award from Carnegie Mellon's Alumni Association as part of the 2008 Alumni Awards. Congratulations! ✳ We hope to see you all on campus June 5–7 for our 50th reunion! The Class of '59 Web site has a new, shorter address: http://go.middlebury.edu/classof1959.

—Class Correspondents: *Bill Hussey (billhusseyMidd59@aol.com), 400 East 77th St., Apt. 11A, New York, NY 10075; and Lucy Paine Kezar (lucypainekezar@verizon.net), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848.*

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In September Amy and **Mike Robinson** traveled to southwest Ireland for 10 days and were absolutely thrilled with the beauty of the lush landscape, which they say has 40 shades of green. They were able to drive and walk along the Ring of Kerry, the Dingle Peninsula, and to the north at Connemara—all absolutely breathtaking with the ocean, islands in the distance, and rugged coastline. The people were as wonderful as the scenery with a warmth and kindness that made them want to return. ✳ Susan and **Sherb Merrill** were in Gig Harbor, Wash., last August, visiting kids and grandchildren. As it was their third August doing this, it's now a family tradition. In September they went to Jackman, Maine, to keep Susan's family tradition going—her family has been going to the same island (one hour from Quebec) since the 1930s! Every year they see the first leaves in the country changing color, filling in the time with golf and travel. Sherb's handicap is listed as 18. To celebrate his 70th birthday and Susan's 60th, they were planning to take a 47-day cruise around South America this January. ✳ In

Rumford, Maine, **Linda Farr MacGregor** writes that life is busy with her husband having a shoulder replacement, grandchildren, and so much more! In August, Roy and **Betsy Comstock Vontobel** visited. The Vontobels keep in close touch with Frank and **Brinna Baird Sands**. Linda also reported that since **Diane Keegan Curran**'s husband, Charlie, died last October, Diane has had a lot of adjusting to do; but she's really doing well. Linda, Diane, and **Deb Wetmore** had lunch together in Boston last spring, a rare treat. Linda is neighbors with **Bill French** who keeps her posted on other classmates. Linda says, "Many of us have turned or will turn 70 this year: no verisimilitude, as one of our beloved American literature faculty might have remarked!" ✳ **John Pindyck Miller** wrote: "Having survived into year 70, I guess I'm getting more nostalgic and sentimental. I did get two things out of my Middlebury experience that proved to be invaluable—I found out what I didn't want to do with my life (any of those respectable occupations) and I met my life's partner who was, and is, one amazing woman, **Lynne** (**Ewing**)." He's been spending more time than ever helping her with her medical practice but his own work still gets done. His exhibition a couple of years ago at the Hammond Museum in North Salem, N.Y., was the most comprehensive since his Middlebury retrospective. More recently, individual pieces have been seen in Stockholm, Sweden, Beacon and White Plains, N.Y. (a large kinetic outdoor piece), and on Governors Island, just off lower Manhattan, which is being developed as an arts and recreation venue. The Sculptors Guild on the Internet will give anyone who's interested some idea of what he creates. ✳ **Ted Buhl** visited with **Ed** and Jane Crittenden '62 **Sommers** at Jane's family homestead in Windham, Vt., where she and Ed were married in 1961. Also in Windham were Ted's ATO roommate **Sam Hoyt** and wife Jeanette. Last winter Ted went on two ski trips with Diane and **John Karlik**. By the way, **Vcevy Strekalovsky** reports that skiing is free at the Snow Bowl for alums over 70! ✳ **Pete Battelle** retired from UVM and, with wife **Jean** (**Emrich**), rented their home in Williston, Vt., and spent a year traveling around the U.S., visiting and hiking in national parks, starting with Acadia in Maine. They went down the East Coast to Florida and headed west, hiking the Big Bend country of Texas with an Elderhostel group. When they visited their daughters in Colorado, they hiked the Southwest, then took another Elderhostel trip to hike in Death Valley. They then visited their son in San Francisco on their way to see Tom and **Luci Frontini Boyle** in Seattle. They also took a "side trip" to Australia to visit their fourth Midd Kid. All four of their children are graduates of Middlebury. ✳ Thanks to all for keeping in touch. Vcevy and Jean love to hear from you.

—Class Correspondents: *Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandave@mindspring.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; and Vcevy Strekalovsky (vs@shrarchitects.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.*

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Bob Braddock, professor of history at Saginaw Valley State Univ. in Michigan, delivered the 2008 Rush Lecture this past October. This lectureship recognizes SVSU faculty and staff who have distinguished themselves by the development or creation of significant scholarly work. Bob's area of scholarship is Tudor administrative history, with emphasis on the royal household. He has published 48 articles and reviews in professional journals and two of his papers appeared in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (2003). He was named a Fellow of Early Modern Studies by the 16th Century Conference, a scholarly society. ✳ After serving as the acting director since 2006, **Joseph Aulisi** was named the director of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. He will also maintain his development role at the museum.

—Class Correspondent: *Steve Crampton (sccrampton@aol.com), 259 Hines Point, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.*

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Jim Warburton writes, "Life in Spain is about the same. Teaching, taking care of dogs and cats, and photography. One change is, I finally sold my car. My Georgia license expired and I couldn't get it renewed without returning to Georgia for an eye exam. And I couldn't get a Spanish license without Spanish residency. And I can't get Spanish residency without returning to the States for a while—Catch 22!" ✳ After playing a prince in *The Queen*, **James Cromwell** is playing an ex-president in Oliver Stone's *W.* He appears as George H. W. Bush. ✳ **Cindy Cooper Bracken** went to Arizona last summer with her eldest grandson to do an Elderhostel program. She says, "We had talks two evenings by an entomologist and a geologist. We started with a ropes course, some team-building activities, and progressed to outdoor survival skills, a demonstration about raptors, rafting on the Colorado River just below the Glen Canyon Dam, and visiting Grand Canyon, which we reached via an old style steam locomotive train that underwent a 'train robbery' by masked horsemen while we were riding. We had one free afternoon, which we used to play at Slide Rock, a natural water slide. It was a full and strenuous week, but I look forward to another trip with another grandchild this coming summer. Where? I know not yet, but it's another boy so it'll be active."

—Class Correspondents: *Judy Bosworth Roësset (jbozroesset@aol.com), 8809 Mariscal Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759; Liza Dunphy Fischer (bfisch@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808; and Jeremy Dworkin (jdlaw1@verizon.net), 3988 Route 100, South Londonderry, VT 05155.*

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Correspondent **Chris White** reports: Writing for the winter issue of class notes in September is a strange exercise, especially following the warm feelings from our 45th reunion in June. It seems as though the "draw" gets stronger with time. Our life experiences are more similar than we realized 20 years ago. Now many of us are retired or about to become so, and we have similar tales to share. Let's all make an effort to reconnect via e-mails, telephone calls, notes, etc. If any mini-reunions occur, please let us know, so we can foster momentum for our 50th. ✳ **Scott Low**, who was unable to join us in June, reports that he heard of the grand time we had. ✳ **Meg Holmes Robbins** and husband Brooks paid a surprise visit to us on Great Cranberry Island, Maine, in mid-September before hurricane season—such fun. ✳ Spontaneous events bring out the best in all of us. Let's promote these efforts and share them. Again, we encourage all of you to use the class directory sent to us to make these reconnections.

—Class Correspondents: *Janet Brevoort Allen-Spencer (jallen@suffolkcommunitycouncil.org), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746; and Christopher J. White (crnbrycst@aol.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.*

64 REUNION CLASS

In Colorado, **Don McLean** has been working as the interim president and CEO of Native American Bank in Denver. The bank is owned by 26 Indian tribes, Alaska Native corporations, and Indian communities. Loans are given to promote the development of economic sovereignty in Native America through water treatment plants, casinos, justice centers, housing, and other initiatives. "It's interesting. The developing world within our borders." ✳ Even though his four years at Midd were among the happiest of his life, **Lans Hays** probably won't make reunion and says he's never attended one. "Part of my absence at reunions was living in California for many years while raising our four daughters. My publishing responsibilities never quite funded cross-country trips for reunions. Now I'm back on the East Coast (Annapolis, Md.) and planning a winter trip down to the islands. I guess I am hopelessly focused on the future; my only interest in the past is easily satisfied by reading history. Nevertheless I hope that all our classmates have a wonderful time!" ✳ **Woody Hickcox** is also unable to attend reunion due to a conflict. He hopes that in another five years he can get things to mesh! ✳ **Miles Bryant** joined the faculty of the Univ. of Neb.-Lincoln many years ago and teaches courses in educational research methods and administration to graduate students in various fields of education. Serving the university in many ways, he was recently the president of the faculty's academic senate. He's a published academic with a nationally used book on creating the doctoral dissertation and he's a published poet. "My wife Sarah Bauman and I have two grown boys, one a doctor and one studying to be a lawyer. We still hike in Colorado and Wyoming, travel when we can, garden organically right in the middle of Lincoln and have put down deep roots here. We recently acquired a beautiful little Lab puppy from a place called Diamond Brook Kennel, about 25 miles south of Middlebury. So now, we are experiencing the ups and down of puppy training. We get to Vermont about every other year." ✳ **Ginny Swain** won't make it to reunion, as her husband's 50th medical school reunion at Johns Hopkins is the same weekend. She writes, "I retired as professor of French and Italian at Dartmouth this June, after 30 years of teaching. With retirement in the offing, I had already joined the boards of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and the Salt Bay Chamberfest in Damariscotta, Maine, where we spend our summers. Together these keep me busy and involved in cultural, political, and policy issues. My husband and I also spent five weeks in New Zealand last winter and are planning more trips for the year ahead. I'd like to convey my warmest wishes to everyone at the reunion." ✳ **Mike Heaney** moved with his family to Hartland, Vt., last summer. "Wife Lucia took over a small Congregational Church in town as the solo pastor and has already totally reinvigorated a struggling youth program. I finished my Ph.D. and graduated this summer, after a 20-year odyssey (in history, from Rutgers Univ.;

dissertation about post-Civil War lives and tribulations of a company of Union volunteers from New Jersey). I have two minor sons, ages 10 and 14 (don't even say it!); and three adult kids who are my children with Carol (Olmsted) '65, who is deceased. I turned from lawyering in New Jersey about a decade ago and have been teaching college history, political science, and American studies ever since, mostly at Trinity College, with occasional courses at Rutgers, Yale, and elsewhere. I went back to Vietnam in October for four weeks, hoping not to be chased or shot at this time." ✷ **Bob Seeley** sent a photo of himself playing in the trumpet section of Summer Swing Orchestra at an engagement in Easton, Pa. Still living in Flemington, N.J., he's doing industrial public relations plus adjunct teaching of English at Raritan Valley Community College.

—Class Correspondents: *Marian Demas Baade (mcbaade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; and John Vecchiolla (vecchiolla@juno.com), 193 Byram Rd., Greenwich, CT 06830.*

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After losing a tight race for state auditor in 2006, **Randy Brock** bounced back to win a seat in the Vermont Senate. ✷ Meanwhile, **Ed Weissman** was defeated in a bid for the Vermont House. Congratulations to them both for having the courage and stamina to run.

—Class Correspondents: *R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753; and Polly Moore Walters (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.*

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Energetic class correspondent **Dianne Watson Carter** was sidelined for a few weeks due to double partial knee replacements. Her request: "Since that period of ignoring the everyday business of life wreaked havoc with my things-to-do list, I'd so appreciate it if everyone would please reach out and contact me for the next issue so I can do my share to contribute classmate news with the least effort on my part–LOL. Thank you, thank you!" ✷ "My life in Vermont continues as both delight and challenge," writes **Andrew Marks**. He invites us to visit p-i-p-e.com for a view of his creative working life of the past 35 years. ✷ **Jane Marter** sent us a postcard to say how thrilled she is after 17 years to still be living in the Florida Keys surrounded by "aquamarine water, flowers, fresh fruit, vegetables, seafood, lots of books, and unbelievable characters who delight and appall but never cease to entertain." ✷ **Lois Thornhill McCluskey** is "basically retired" from her photography business. She spends her time taking care of her household, husband, and self. She and her husband are still tied to the academic calendar as he is still supervising grad student engineers but is hoping to retire after the last two engineers finish their degrees next year. The McCluskeys have some very young grandchildren living within a few blocks of their house—"a joy." Lois is now knitting (a legacy of her Middlebury days) for her granddaughter and has taken up the piano again after having given up in frustration at age five. She corresponds with **Holly Hartley** and **Jineen Summerton** and sees them occasionally. "We travel mostly by car for our vacations," Lois writes. "No more airplanes!" They went to Lone Pine, Calif., last March to explore the west side of Death Valley, where gas was costing $5 a gallon. They hiked in the foothills of the Eastern Sierras and at Eureka and Panamint dunes—"a marvelous time to be there." In June they headed for Mt. Shasta and found some great hiking along the Sacramento and McCloud rivers until they got smoked out by all the surrounding forest fires. During their next break, they're looking forward to hiking along the beach near Shelter Cove up in Humboldt County, Calif. "There one can hike along the beach for 25 miles. We've never gone all the way since it is a backpacking trip but we keep trying to get farther."

—Class Correspondents: *Dianne Watson Carter (cartermags@aol.com), PO Box 259, Harvard, MA 01451; Francine Clark Page (page@pshift.com), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452; and Cathy Zawistoski Sampson(breadworks36@msn.com), 36 William Fairfield Dr., Wenham, MA 01984.*

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Will Prescott writes, "I am in Guadalajara, Mexico, for two years working for the Comision Nacional Forestal (CONAFOR) as part of the U.S. Peace Corps. I have been here since October 2007 and will be here through the end of 2009, when my tour with the Peace Corps ends. I haven't decided what I'll do after that. It's a lot of fun living in a new country, struggling to learn Spanish, learning some new job skills, and making lots of new friends." ✷ Correspondent **Susan Davis Patterson** reports: The fall gathering of the Women of '67 was hosted by **Margot Childs Cheel** in Cohasset, Mass., September 26–28. Sixteen Midd coeds spent all or part of the weekend in a beautiful and perfectly preserved 1930s mansion by the sea, courtesy of Margot's friend Milli Chapell. In spite of a hurricane roaring up the coast, four intrepid women still biked out to the end of Hull spit and returned as drowned rats. The others tramped around the harbor, beach, and quaint village of Cohasset. Sharing hilarious memories and stories over wine and cheese in front of the fireplace were: **Marji Speier Wehr**, **Elaine Dunphy Foster**, **Marion Boultbee**, **Nancy Jope Delaney**, **Joanne Hall Johnston**, **Livvy Barbour Tarleton**, **Patty Ramsey**, **Connie Reynolds Davis**, **Sue Schweickert Macy**, **Helen Martin Whyte**, **Sue Rugg Parmenter**, **Linda Morse**, **Carol Collin Little**, **Freddie Mahlmann**, Margot Cheel, and me. Our 2009 gathering will be on Lake Dunmore in mid-September. Plenty of room in two camps on the water. To get your name on the mailing list, contact me at the address below. Make this one your time to come!

—Class Correspondents: *Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; and Alex Taylor (alex_taylor@fortunemail.com), 325 W. 86th St., #8B, New York, NY 10024.*

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After 36 years with the U.S. government, in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, **Jim Barnes** retired on September 12. While at HUD, he always tried to pursue two personal goals: to simplify complex rules for local officials, and to make decisions that had the maximum benefit for local communities and the agencies and people who support and assist them. But he was interested in moving on to new challenges, and he has taken a new position in the housing and community development field, as the community development director in Lawrence, Mass. ✷ **Ann Philips** writes, "Last winter my novel for middle school students and counselors, *If You Believe in Mermaids...Don't Tell,* was published. It's a resource for school tolerance and antibullying programs and for students who feel alienated, especially those who don't conform to gender norms. In addition to writing, I'm an active board member of Animals and Society Institute, an animal welfare think tank that advances the status of animals in public policy and promotes the new academic field of human-animal relationship studies. We live in a wonderfully funky historic neighborhood outside of Washington, D.C., and spend six weeks each year in a family cabin on Linekin Bay, Maine."

—Class Correspondents: *Bentley Gregg (gregg.bentley@epamail.epa.gov), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180; and Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau (hstoebs@aol.com), 6 Timber Fare, Spring House, PA 19477.*

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REUNION CLASS

Correspondent **Anne Harris Onion** reports: With the intensity of the 2008 presidential election behind us and the excitement of a new administration emerging (and I know not all readers will agree with me about this), the challenges facing our country, the unpopular war, social upheaval, and change of guard do indeed remind me of the 1960s—our time at Middlebury. Do you do a mental startle each time the media cover a major event of "40 years ago"—the riots in Detroit, assassinations of RFK and King, the Six-Day War, the 1968 Democratic convention? Where has all that time gone and what have we been doing with it? What better way to ruminate on that than to gather with your fellow classmates of 1969 for our 40th reunion June 5–7. The sad news of the passing of various classmates is the call to realize that none of us can count on "maybe next time." Mark your calendars and plan to come share our lives, our current hopes and fears, and to celebrate together. I hope to see you there!

—Class Correspondents: *Anne Harris Onion (onions@metrocast.net), PO Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; and Peter Reynolds (preyn@wcvt.com), 64 Maple St., Bristol, VT 05443.*

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Anne Keiser writes, "Upon reading the message from **Al Perry** about climbing Kilimanjaro and challenging us to beat going 10 days without a shower, I had to weigh in. Having done a lot of photographic assignments in the Himalayas over the years, I could beat him significantly (three weeks to be exact). What followed was a steady e-mail correspondence between us culminating in coffee together in D.C. talking about how to get Al and **Rob Apple** on a major trek in the Everest region. What a wonderful coincidence to be in touch with people we never knew at school!" ✷ **Kristie Carlson Wolferman** writes, "I am back to teaching full time, middle and high schoolers. Usually, my job is very gratifying. I am only qualifying this statement because I just returned from a four-day school trip to the mountains with 7th graders. I have never been so cold in my life! The kids were great, and the scenery was magnificent. I just had my third book published by the University of Missouri Press, *The Indomitable Mary Easton Sibley.* Mary founded the first college for women west of the Mississippi, Lindenwood Univ. I was invited to be the keynote speaker at their homecoming weekend in October. Our son Stuart is living in Brooklyn with wife Zoe and is trying to make it in the music business. He went on tour with his band this past summer. (Check out www.imaginaryjohnnny.com.) Ethan, our

younger son, is a tennis pro in San Francisco. Fred and I regret that they are both so far away. However, we have been fortunate enough to get them to North Carolina for Thanksgiving and to Kansas City for Christmas and one summer trip." ✳ **Betsy Boerckel Bayardi** writes, "**Lynn Wilson** and I had a blast attending the Mischords reunion. Although we were the oldest of the ladies present, we sang out and did the choreography for 'Why Must I Be a Teenager in Love' just like almost 40 years ago. It was great to make the connection with our fellow 'Chords, young and young at heart. On the personal front, I'm doing financial and operations consulting in health care—a bit of a stretch from Latin American area studies. Armand and I became grandparents two years ago and are loving the experience. Look us up if you are in the Philadelphia area." ✳ **Debby Gaines Monroe** writes, "I'm still working at the Financial Accounting Standards Board (20 years next month), which provides some excitement every time people want to blame accounting rules for economic problems. Otherwise, not doing too much except trying to enjoy life and see daughter Jessica '02 and son-in-law Will Vaughan '01 as often as possible. Looking forward to the next reunion." ✳ **Bee Ottinger** writes from Pasadena, Calif., "I retired from the film business a few years ago and have gone back to my first love, photography. I've posted my photos on my Web site, www.thedailybuzzz.com, for seven years now. I find it a wonderful form of communication and have made Internet friends. I got a show in Scranton, Pa., this winter from a contact through the Web site. I've been teaching, also, which is again going back to my origins, as I was preparing for a teaching career at Midd when I got sidetracked with photography. I've been going back to the ole College on the Hill for five years teaching a video editing course during January. I also teach yoga here in Pasadena." ✳ **Judy Cullen Friede** writes, "I left the corporate world five years ago and returned to my first love—teaching. While I don't miss the corporate environment, I do miss the international travel, so I was thrilled to have the opportunity to teach English at Guilin Univ. in China this past summer. My students were wonderful, and for many, it was the first time they had ever spoken with a native English speaker. It was amazing to watch their progress as we shared classes and recreational activities. Guilin is hot as blazes in the summer, but uniquely beautiful, and in fact it's one of the most photographed spots in China. Not one of my students had parents who had been to college and almost all students had multiple siblings (only Han Chinese are limited to one child). The relationships I formed will last a lifetime, and I look forward to going back and taking some or all of my family with me."

—Class Correspondents: *David Desrochers (daveandelsa@embarqmail.com); Beth Prasse Seeley (beth@seeley.com); and Nancy Crawford Sutcliffe (ncrawford_sutcliffe@comcast.net).*

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Chris Grejtak writes, "Last June, wife Nancy, son Peter and I moved to Darien, Conn., to be closer to our daughter (Stephanie, a Villanova grad) and my brother and his family. Quite the move, but we were able to sell our home in California and buy a great place that is perfect for our current situation. The move back to the East Coast also has given me the opportunity to look seriously at a career change. Although I enjoyed, at least most of the time, my 34 years in the software and services industry, it has never been a passion. So I decided to try and find an organization that would allow me to be involved with one of my real passions, youth sports. I joined the Positive Coaching Alliance, or PCA (www.positivecoach.org), to head up their growth initiatives on the East Coast. The PCA is a not-for-profit that is focused on transforming the culture of youth sports across the U.S. so that every youth athlete can have a positive, character-building experience with sports. If you have a chance, take a look at the Web site and if you know anyone involved with a youth sports organization that might be interested in PCA, pass on the information." ✳ **Jeff** and **Susan Elmendorf Roberts** (an item since the beginning of freshman year, if memory serves) checked in from Wisconsin. Susie writes, "We have three sons and four daughters. Daughter Lucy graduated from Midd in 2000 and married Tom Henry, class of '98. Daughter Mary is scheduled to graduate in 2009. In 1977, we built a house with a solar-heated indoor pool and I ran a booming infant swimming program right in our basement. Twenty-five years later I decided my priority was our youngest child, Will, who had been diagnosed with autism. He has become a major challenge but a joy to all. A book about him, *My Best Friend Will,* was nominated for the literary piece of the year on autism. Will has opened many doors for all of us and made us all better people. Jeff started an agricultural manufacturing company in 1980. The first decade was difficult, but Jeff's hard work and ingenious inventions have made Harvest Tec a success. He's still very involved with his company and the agricultural world. We have been grandparents since 2006, but this past fall we had grandchildren born in Boston, Chapel Hill, N.C., and Portland, Ore., all within six weeks of each other! **Ann Einsiedler Crumb**, **Barb Horiuchi**, **Liddy Browning Mason**, and I try to stay in touch via e-mail or occasional celebrations." ✳ **Chuck Ambler** writes, "I continue working as a historian of Africa at the Univ. of Texas-El Paso. This past year I traveled with students to Egypt and Tunisia and to a workshop I organized in the Netherlands. Last summer I gave a series of lectures at universities in Nigeria (only stopped by the police once) and visited Kenya to talk at a conference, do research, and visit the area where Gloria (Miglietta) '70 and I lived in the 1970s. Our daughter married in July and began a Ph.D. program in economics at the Univ. of Mich. Our son recently became legislative assistant and rules committee liaison for Vermont's congressman, Peter Welch. Gloria and I just saw **Steve** and Pat Young '70 **Sawyer** in Maine. Still listening to Van Morrison, but mixing in Afro pop." ✳ **Ann Waltner** is a professor of history at the Univ. of Minn., where she's been for 20 years. In addition to teaching Chinese and world history in the history department, she directs the university-wide interdisciplinary Institute for Advanced Study (www.ias.umn.edu). ✳ **Suzanne Webel** writes, "Ta da! My daughter Claire Bovet has just joined the legacy ranks of the Class of 2012 (making me possibly the last person in our class to send kids off to college, with one more to go in two years). She loves Middlebury, has already made lots of friends, did a weeklong backpacking trip on the Long Trail as part of the first-year orientation, joined the equestrian team, finds her classes stimulating, and thinks highly of all her professors. What more could a parent ask? (Well, other than a break in tuition and fees...)" ✳ Breaking a long silence, **Peter Nestler** checks in: "I am one of the worst at keeping in touch with Middlebury. I've been living in Washington, Conn., for almost 30 years, using my home office most of the time working for an NYC company. Finally, after 40 years in the workplace, I'm doing something that I really enjoy: strategic planning and growth initiatives. I only have to commute to NYC about three times a month and I'm taking advantage of the new communications technology, doing just about everything from home. Betsey and I just celebrated our 33rd anniversary. We have two boys grown and gone, and two grandchildren. Other than having slightly over $45 in my retirement fund, I don't see how things could be better. Middlebury was nice enough to admit my niece this September; she loves it." He hopes to make it back for our 40th reunion.

—Class Correspondents: *Barbara Laudenslager Mosley (barbaramosley@optonline.net); Carolyn Ungberg Olivier (colivier@sover.net); and Robert Waters (robwaters7012@mindspring.com).*

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While visiting her family on Cape Cod, **Evey Zmudsky LaMont** boated over to the Vineyard to meet up with **Skip** and Janet Frye '73 **DeVito** at their idyllic vacation retreat on Chappaquiddick. Great lunch and good wine as they caught up on news! ✳ **Cynthia Bear** writes from Japan that she works on an integration project in the compliance division of Citigroup's principal Japanese holding company. Travel in Japan and Asia has been fascinating (Papua New Guinea jungles). All classmates (or their traveling children) are welcome to take advantage of the guest room. When asked about a return to the U.S., she usually says: "The Boss has my passport." ✳ **Pieter Bergen** and his family have landed in France, where their daughters are in international school, and he and his wife are teaching. Paris isn't what he remembers it to be when he was there before, but it's beautiful, exciting, fast, and happening. "Very different, working with a family to get through the day and plan for eventualities! Anyone want to rent a flat for one or two weeks, in the heart of the Latin Quarter? My e-mail: bergenp@sympatico.ca."

—Class Correspondents: *Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienaheights.edu); and Evey Zmudsky LaMont (eveylamont@primetimetransition.com).*

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Correspondent **Andrea Thorne** writes this message: Hello, everyone! This is a propitious time for me to resurface and volunteer to be one of our class correspondents. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with those of you I knew and becoming acquainted with some of you I don't know yet. NYC is still my residence after a quarter century. My big accomplishment for 2008 was finding my birth mother after being adopted you can calculate how many years ago. She is still living and is working full time at age 79. Those who remember me from the Château will be relieved that my ancestry is 100 percent French. I'm wondering if other adoptees in our class have reunion stories to share or would be motivated by my success to conduct a search. ✳ **Kent Spellman**, the former executive director of the Ritchie County (W.Va.) Development Authority, recently began a new job heading the Hub, an organization in Clarksburg, W.Va., that has a mission of providing training to help align projects and resources to develop West Virginia's communities. ✳ Check

out a photo including **Deborah Shinn** and her daughter on page 67 in Celebrations.
—Class Correspondents: *Deborah Schneider Greenhut (writerDSG@comcast.net); and Andrea Thorne (andrearthorne@msn.com).*

74 REUNION CLASS

Amy Howlett wrote to say, "I'm hoping to see a few old friends and make a few new ones at Reunion 35—and in fact I have volunteered to call several of you, so be warned. For the last 25 years I've been in Grafton, Vt., pop. 653, raising a family and working as a librarian. Our son Charlie (20) is halfway through Middlebury as a conservation bio major. He's reintroduced me to the pleasures of dining at Proctor, walking along the top of the hill past Ross, and enjoying the field behind Battell. Daughter Laura (15) has visited Midd, primarily to enjoy World Cup Quidditch in the fall. Recently I've been in touch with **Lisa Anderson Cox** in Brattleboro, Vt.; **Jane Hicock Rudolph** in Woodbridge, Conn.; and **Chris Lazarus** in Pawling, N.Y. Like most Middlebury alumni, they seem to be every bit as informed, funny, smart, and energetic as they were in the '70s when we first met. Hope to see you at the reunion!" ✳ **John Hughes** also sent a note: "After Middlebury, I bummed around Europe for a year, then worked in bookstores upon my return to Kansas City. That led to 28 good years in the book business, in sales and marketing, and finally as associate publisher at Basic Books in NYC. But my wife missed her hometown, so in 2004 we quit our jobs, got pregnant, moved to Denver, and I returned to college for a teaching license; I'd been a volunteer reading tutor in NYC for ten years and sensed a calling. After two years of courses (*much* longer than I'd expected), and four years without a full-time paying job (ditto!), I am a newly minted reading specialist at a high-poverty school in northeast Denver. I'm teaching 50 struggling readers, Latino and black kids from kindergarten to third grade, whom I hope to have (at least) at grade level by year's end. Son Joseph is three and daughter Emily's an NYU senior. Write! (john52hughes@yahoo.com)." ✳ Greg and I (Barry) are looking forward to seeing you at our reunion, June 5–7. Here are Greg's **Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Come To Reunion**: (10) Maybe former President James Armstrong will show up and explain all those Princeton retreads on the faculty; (9) Two words: black flies; (8) Marvel at how sleeping in a dorm room is remarkably like it must be inside a prison cell—in a good way, of course; (7) Dive into the punch bowl in the Pit of Johnson once again; (6) Mourn the passing of the Crest Room and the old Proctor dining hall; (5) Tell everybody how you could never get admitted to the College if you were 18 today—even though you secretly believe you'd somehow find a way to get in—even if it meant becoming a Tibetan logrolling champion; (4) Relive the famous trash can wars between Stewart and Hepburn, complete with torrents of water tossed from the rooftops; (3) At long last, we can determine who was on the list of the TBGs (Those Beautiful Girls); (2) Who knows? If it's a really long winter, maybe the Snow Bowl will still be open; (1) Everybody is really nice, and it's a ton of fun.
—Class Correspondents: *Greg Dennis (gregorydennis@verizon.net); and Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net).*

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Class agents **Gordon Jamieson**, **Bob Bourque**, **Rick Greene**, **Caroline Sneath McBride**, **Jack Neumyer**, and **Susan Polk** attended the annual Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf this past September. The weekend included getting an update on the current state of the College, the Middlebury Initiative campaign, and the latest news on the Annual Fund participation challenge (many thanks to our classmates for getting us to 60 percent participation)—as well as the opportunity to spend time enjoying Vermont and meeting other alumni. We are always looking for additional classmates to assist us in our efforts. If this sounds like fun and you want to join us in our work (and attend ALC/Bread Loaf next year as we begin to prepare for our 35th reunion), please contact Gordon thru Heidi Webb in the Annual Fund office (hwebb@middlebury.edu). ✳ **Vicki Arnold Hajewski** just finished her first year as vice chancellor and dean of students at the Univ. of Wis.-Superior and has often found herself thinking about Dean Wonnacott and what she might have done in a particular situation. "I certainly never pictured myself in this role 35 years ago or I might have paid better attention! As an added bonus, son Jack is a junior here and doesn't seem to mind that his mom is the dean! We love being in the northland, on 'the' great lake, and we invite Midd friends who find themselves in the Twin Ports area of Duluth/Superior to stop by." ✳ **Kari Sides Suva** is one of three Midd alums heading up the Parents' Association at her daughter's school, Waynflete School, in Portland, Maine. Check out a photo Kari sent of them with their daughters on page 67 in Celebrations.
—Class Correspondents: *Cristine Cioffi (ccioffi@cswlawfirm.com); and Rick Greene (fgreene@middlebury.edu).*

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A group of '76ers had a fabulous rendezvous on Cuttyhunk Island, Mass., last August at **Betsy Sherman Walker**'s home overlooking the harbor. Joining Betsy in the fun were **Paula Raphel Crowley**, **Anne West**, **Wanda Seeley Stetson**, and **Jill Cowperthwaite**. See their photo on page 67 in Celebrations. ✳ Jill is the brand-new director of development at the Colorado Historical Society. Daughter Carly is a student at Midd. ✳ Wanda was planning to spend the fall in India. ✳ **Kate Flinker Mullally** writes, "We relocated from Boston to Dubai this past August. I'm working as an employee of Partners Harvard Medical International as the director of licensing in Dubai Health Care City, an economic free zone established by the government of Dubai. I'm responsible for credentialing and licensing all the health-care and non-health-care facilities as well as all the individuals providing services in those facilities." Sons James (11th grade) and Christopher (8th grade) attend Dubai American Academy.
—Class Correspondents: *Nancy Clark Herter (ncherter@mxschool.edu); and Gene O'Neill (otis3024@optonline.net).*

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Send news!
—Class Correspondent: *Bob Lindberg (rcl@linrip.com).*

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Sue Woodworth reports she's enjoying a fully lived life, married for four years now to Bob Kersten, a United Methodist pastor. They reside in southeastern Sullivan County in New York State. Bob serves the Grahamsville and Sundown United Methodist churches, and Sue is coordinating children's programming at the local library. They recently purchased a tiny cabin in Vermont, just outside of Rutland, where they enjoy Sabbath time and where they'll eventually retire. Owning a place in Vermont feels like being back home! Sue's children, Gideon Frisbee (24) and Chelsea Frisbee (22), are both living, farming, and working in Delhi, N.Y. Bob's son Kris (30) is a Ph.D. student at the Univ. of Minn. Sue's niece Sara Woodworth (daughter of brother Greg '81) started at Midd this fall! ✳ Sadly we must report the death of **Paul Nordstrom** on August 15 after a seven-year battle with cancer. Our sympathy is extended to wife **Kathleen Henry**, his three children, and all his family and friends.
—Class Correspondents: *David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com); Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com); and Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com).*

79 REUNION CLASS

Has it been five years already (or even 30)? Yes, it's reunion time again and the party's scheduled for June 5–7. Come rekindle old friendships and relive memories on campus or at Mr. Up's. Go for a hike, a fun run, or play golf in the Vermont countryside. It's as beautiful as you remember. Attend a lecture, check out the art galleries or just laze in the Adirondack chairs behind Forest—they're still there! Get your buddies together—hope to see you all at Midd in June! ✳ At the Alumni Leadership Conference in September, it took no time for **Maggie Paine**, **Tiffany Nourse Sargent**, **Mary MacKenzie Corke**, and **Beth Mooney Longcope** to get going with collective memories at the Bread Loaf lunch table; it was a fun reunion preview! ✳ Speaking of reunions, from Middlebury Beth drove to Brattleboro, Vt., for the first performance of a "reunion tour": Craig Wells '78 and Martha Lappen Pfeiffer '78 played guitar and sang old favorites with their same, great harmonies. If you're in the area, check out listings at the Windham Wine Gallery for possible upcoming shows. ✳ For more on Beth, check out a photo including her and her daughter on page 67 in Celebrations. ✳ Mary Corke works as a Title I tutor for math at an elementary school in Maynard, Mass. (and is still married to Randy '80). Daughter Allison graduated last May from Midd and now tours with the National Players, the oldest touring theater company in the country. Mary saw **Nancy Limbacher Meyer** last summer in Atlanta when Mary flew there with youngest daughter Lauren, who was leaving to spend a semester in Botswana studying ecology and conservation. Lauren loved it so much that she stayed over Christmas, and the rest of the Corkes (Randy, Mary, Allison, and son Jonathan) decided to go to Botswana for Christmas too! It was the first time any of them had been in the Southern Hemisphere. Mary also bumped into **Majie Zeller** last summer at Tanglewood. Majie was there because her husband David was one of the soloists for the Berlioz opera being performed that night. ✳ Sadly, we must report the death of **Jay Moore** on July 25, 2008. Our sympathy goes out to his family and friends.
—Class Correspondents: *Maura Flynn (maura_flynn@msn.com); and Beth Mooney Longcope (longcopes@earthlink.net).*

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On hotelnewsresource.com, **Jeffrey Catrett** recently wrote an article entitled "Take Notes! Getting Into the Senior Mindset and Bodyset." After a 10-year management career in hotel operations with such companies as Omni International and Swissôtel, he has served as dean of the École hôtelière de Lausanne and the dean of academics at the Les Roches Swiss Hotel Association School of Hotel Management in Bluche, Switzerland. ✳ As a renowned ecologist, **Ingrid Burke** was recently named the director of the Haub School and Ruckelshaus Institute of Environment and Natural Resources at the Univ. of Wyo. She joins the UW faculty as a Wyoming Excellence Chair and will have a joint appointment in the departments of botany in the College of Arts and Sciences and of renewable resources in the College of Agriculture. Formerly she was a professor in the department of forest, rangeland, and watershed stewardship at Colorado State Univ.
—Class Correspondents: *Anne Cowherd Kallaher (acowherd@cng-inc.com); and Susanne Rohardt Strater (scstrater@videotron.ca).*

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Cecily Chilton Matthai has lived in Baltimore for more than 20 years now and still plays competitive tennis, paddle tennis, and some squash. She is happy doing the "busy mom and supportive wife" thing right now and it's no surprise that she has three athletic children. Son Jake (15) and **Sue Dutcher Wagley**'s son, Philip (16), both play lacrosse with and against each other on the East Coast. Cecily also went to Dallas with daughters Theo (17) and Susannah (14) for the Jr. Olympic National Volleyball tournament and stayed with the Wagleys. ✳ Sue and Jay Wagley balance city life in Dallas with time at their ranch running a commercial beef cattle operation, riding quarter horses, and enjoying lots of wildlife. Both their children, Eliza (12) and Philip are avid lacrosse players, which takes the family back east a lot during the year. ✳ Dan and **Sheryl Crockett Tishman** live in Bedford, N.Y. Sheryl recently spent a couple of days hanging in Boulder, Colo., with **Lisa Morgan**. Lisa and her family live in Fort Collins where she teaches dance and raises her children, Lee (14) and Dillon (12). Sheryl is very active in environmental and land preservation causes, which take her back to Maine often. They also spend a lot of time in Telluride. She has two boys, Josh (17) and Gabe (12). Recently, Sheryl spent a day with **Sue Butler Lehman** and **Ann Luginbuhl**. Ann lives in Dennysville, Maine, where she teaches. Daughter Sophie is at Bryn Mawr College and son Will is a freshman at Middlebury. Sue lives in Lexington, Mass., raising her three children, and she continues to work in the banking world.
—Class Correspondents: *Elaine King Nickerson (eknick@aol.com); and Sue Dutcher Wagley (suewagley@earthlink.net).*

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Nick Gardner sent belated news about his wedding in January 2007. He married Teresa Sanislo in Lake Tahoe, Calif., with **Dave Buchanan** as best man and Debbie Smith '83 in attendance. After Midd he got degrees in law and business and has been with Thomson/Reuters in Minneapolis for 13 years. ✳ **Frank Albanese** was recently promoted to senior VP, supply chain, at HarperCollins. In his new role, he takes on responsibility for the adult and children's inventory management departments and leads the supply chain team. Living in Montclair, N.J., he has a daughter, Melissa, who is a freshman at McGill Univ. in Montreal and a son, John, who is a freshman at St. Peter's prep school in Jersey City. Wife Laurie is an author whose third book, *The Miracles of Prato,* will be out in February. ✳ Becky and **Rob Davis** are empty nesters now that daughter Chloe has gone off to Princeton. Rob planned to be back again at Midd this January participating in Michael Claudon's winter term class. ✳ Brett and **Beth Goddard Long** both left the world of banking and finance and opened their first restaurant, The Counter-Custom Built Burgers, in September 2008 in West Hartford, Conn. The Counter is the first Northeast location for the California chain of franchised hamburger joints where you can choose from approximately 312,000 possible burger combinations. If you're in the West Hartford area, please stop in and say hello or check out www.thecounterburger.com. ✳ Leadership consultant **Emma "Raleigh" Mayer** is now a coaching adviser to the Association of Executive Search Consultants and has a new Web site up with video samples of her training presentations (www.raleighmayer.com).
—Class Correspondents: *Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomomgo@bellsouth.net); and Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com).*

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Formerly managing director at Deutsche Bank, **Barry Shrier** has been focusing his expertise since 2007 on the development of zero-emission cars. Recently forming Liberty Electric Cars Ltd., of which he is CEO, he plans to reengineer large luxury cars and 4x4s into emission-free, high-performance electric vehicles. Liberty is based in the United Kingdom.✳ This past summer, **John Kerney** took over as the headmaster at Winchendon School in Winchendon, Mass. Formerly he was the associate head of school at Gould Academy in Bethel, Maine. ✳ **Maura Martin** serves as first selectman for the town of Thomaston, Conn. She has one son, Timothy.
—Class Correspondents: *Ruth Kennedy (kennedyr2@aetna.com); and Siobhan Leahy Ulrich (sulrich@westminster-school.org).*

84 REUNION CLASS

Margaret Clark lives in northern New Jersey with kids Teddy (11) and Casey (5) and husband Steve, who works for Johnson & Johnson. "I have stuck my toe back into the paid workforce (part time) helping Princeton Univ. to develop a program for women who want to return to the workforce and may have an interest in government service. The rest of my time is spent volunteering at my kids' schools and coaching. After three years with Teddy's soccer team, I am back at the micro level, helping to coach my daughter's burgeoning interest in sports!" ✳ **Anthony Flint** is readying for the publication of his second book (Random House, spring 2009) about the clash between urban activist Jane Jacobs and urban planner Robert Moses in NYC in the 1950s and '60s. HBO has optioned the book for a feature film that would be a project by James Gandolfini, who would play Moses. Following 16 years as a reporter for the *Boston Globe*, he is director of public affairs at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, a think tank near Harvard Square in Cambridge, and living in South Boston with his wife and three sons. He was spotted last fall in Middlebury for the alumni golf tournament with partner **John Fraser** (and fellow players **Josh Rabinowitz** and **Steve Moynahan**, coincidentally members of the Ripton Blues Band) and at Bread Loaf for the Alumni Leadership Conference, as part of the 25th reunion gift committee. ✳ **Helen Carpenter Bodell** continues her work as the director of college counseling at Lincoln School in Providence, R.I. With a daughter who's a senior, Helen says that she's "learning what it really feels like to go through this transition." She lives with husband Charlie and daughters Ruth (17) and Martha (12) in Rumford, R.I. She recently enjoyed a wonderful visit with **Cindy Morrison** and her son when they were in Providence last year. Helen says, "Field hockey camp, the college search, and Homecoming have brought me back to Middlebury a number of times this past year." She regrets that she will miss the 25th reunion because her daughter graduates from high school that weekend. ✳ **Laura Flashman** is an associate professor of psychiatry at Dartmouth Medical School and the director of the neuropsychology program at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. She returned happily to New England after a route that took her to Emory Univ. in Atlanta, Ga., for her MA and Ph.D. in psychology, an internship in San Diego, Calif., and a postdoctoral fellowship at the Mental Health Clinical Research Center at the Univ. of Iowa. She's lived 14 years in a small town south of Hanover, N.H., with husband Randy White and daughter Erin (8), with regular visits from stepson Ryan (13). Laura is a self-proclaimed "hockey mom who doesn't wear lipstick" and who also cheers the children on at soccer (Ryan), ballet (Erin), and baseball (both). ✳ **Cheryl Hussey Lacey** lives in Topsham, Maine, and works as the associate director of dining at Bates College. "Bates is well known for its focus on local food, recycling, and sustainability and it has just received an endowment to help fund even more local and organic food purchases. That, coupled with the opening of our brand-new dining facility last February, has made for a very exciting time here." Cheryl's husband works for the Maine competition—he's an assistant chef at Bowdoin. They have three older children all out of the house—Joe in Colorado, Chrysta in Brunswick, and Erin in Portland, Maine. Cheryl's youngest, Parker, is in fourth grade and is keeping his parents extraordinarily busy with hockey, gymnastics, karate (he's a purple belt), his unicycle and circus troupe, honors choir, and Cub Scouts. ✳ **Anne Hambleton** wrote from her farm in Weybridge, Vt., where she lives with husband Dave Starr, his one college-age (UVM) and two college-graduate kids, four horses, two dogs, and three cats. "I keep busy with farm work, horse stuff, and my work in renewable energy/carbon markets. I retired from steeplechase racing intact last year and am exploring other ways that involve running and jumping to compete my retired steeplechasers. We have a barn apartment and it's fun seeing Midd classmates (at least those that don't mind horses) coming to reunions, dropping kids at camp, or visiting Midd on the college tour or for Parents' Weekend." Anne reports seeing John '81 and **Ann Gustafson Sorice**, **Mason Wells** and wife Kathy, Mark Collins '79, Alicia Stump Murphy '77, and **Marc** and Mimi Dalbey '83 **Tabah**. Anne also crosses paths often with Andy '83 and Monica Carroll '86 McCabe and sees Jamie Hutchins '83 and **Hannah Nichols**.

Anne promises that she will host a bonfire for the 25th reunion and has commenced digging the ditch.
—Class Correspondents: *Kimberly Schlegel Boscow (ksboscow@msn.com); and Andrew Zehner (andrew.zehner@pfizer.com).*

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Pat Campbell, VP and COO of Keystone Ski Resort since 2006, was recently promoted to senior vice president. She joined Vail Resorts in 1999 as ski school director at Breckenridge, then served as the director of skier services at Breckenridge from 2000 to 2006. ✷ This past summer, **Karen Southard Nevin** was named the director of alumni relations for the New England Culinary Institute in Vermont. For the past nine years she has been the executive assistant to the chancellor of the Vermont state colleges.
—Class Correspondents: *Ruth Lohmann Davis (rdavis@comcast.net); and Denah Lohmann Toupin (denaht@comcast.net).*

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Hi everyone in the Class of 1986! We hope you are all happy and well. We've heard from a few classmates! ✷ **Ann McCollum** sent in a grand report: "I left my teaching job in spring 2007, went to Nepal for three months, dabbled in some volunteer work, and am in the midst of starting a risk management consulting business for independent schools. (Would love any contact from fellow educators!) I'm still kayaking, backpacking, rafting, and cycling here in New Mexico and love the desert Southwest. This summer I saw our classmate **Bill Burden** perform at the Santa Fe Opera as Captain Vere (one of the leads) in the opera *Billy Budd*. We had dinner a couple of days later and caught up on our lives since we last saw one another at graduation in 1986! Needless to say, his D-8 experience has taken him much further than my Mischords experience, which basically allows me to confidently sing in my car. Anyone able to see Bill perform should absolutely go—he's amazing and quite the national opera star." ✷ **Frank Muggia** reports that things are going well in Orchard Park, N.Y., where he and wife Denise are busy with their children, Sydney (14), Ben (12), and Sophie (8). Frank runs his law practice, Muggia & Associates, and coaches the kids in tennis and soccer—and in his spare time gets to see **Domenic Ciarallo**. He and Dom are partners in a film production company and have been successful with their films thus far—*Hot Tamale* and, a great one for kids, *Moondance Alexander*. ✷ **Reid** and **Cindy Cosby Appleby** report that Cindy received her master's in library science from Texas Woman's Univ. in December 2007. Still living in Southlake, Texas, Reid continues to work with American Airlines. Their kids are Lindsay (16) and Reid IV (13). ✷ **Rich** and Emily Cushman '76 **Belanger** are next door to **Torsten Garber** in Westlake Village, Calif. Rich is with J. D. Powers, and they enjoy exploring California. ✷ **Mary Sue Holland Dehn** sent in an article about **Elizabeth Thompson Serlemitsos** who was recently honored by Yale School of Management as a Donaldson Fellow in recognition of her career accomplishments. She is the chief adviser to the Zambian National AIDS Council, and since 1996, has worked on governmental, nongovernmental, and private sector public health initiatives. Her work to increase funding to Zambia's fight against HIV/AIDS helped support a program that provides free treatment to all in need. ✷ **Kate** and I (Torsten) will be "cold calling" classmates to start spreading the class update net. If you receive a message from us on your voicemail, we are looking for news! Please call us back or e-mail either one of us. We have noticed that there is outdated information on the class list we use for our duties. Send us your contact info and we will forward it to Middlebury—or go to the Web site, click on Alumni, and you'll see a link to update your info.
—Class Correspondents: *Torsten Garber (skytag@verizon.net); and Kate Wallace Perrotta (pgperrotta@verizon.net).*

87

Ann Poletti sent an epic dispatch bringing us up to date on a number of classmates we hadn't heard from in awhile: "**Bernard Condon** continues to write for *Forbes* and was jetted to Papua New Guinea by an Irish bizillionaire to hunt wild boar with the natives, a hunt that earned him a 100-year-old boar tooth fanged necklace (and cover treatment in the August '08 issue of *Forbes*). Bernard's wife, **Patricia Clary** (my former roommate), took time off from working to be with their two kids, Emma and Mr. B. (Yes, that's what he goes by—even in school the teachers and principals call him Mr. B. Ping Trish for more details. It's quite funny.) She soon found herself talked into running the Parents' Association at the kids' Manhattan nursery school. It apparently is a huge, sensitive job because Trish is always on call and she can out-Blackberry both Bern and me on any outing. **John Woolley** and wife Karen have been increasingly involved in helping Rwandan children, postgenocide. In addition to underwriting the education and living expenses for several kids and orphans there, John headed to Rwanda this past summer to pitch in a helping hand on the ground. Those gorgeous Canadians—**Holly Johnson** and **Lorna MacDougall Denham**—continue to perfect their skills at crowd control by raising three kids each. Lorna lives in Montreal now with hubby Michael, and Holly and hubby Parker '89 live about five blocks away from me in Pac Heights, San Francisco. In a completely small world experience (we challenge anybody to top this one), **Claire Barron** and I bumped into each other randomly a year ago on the streets of Ubud, Bali, where she was visiting her Balinese family that she stayed with junior year and I was attending a 'destination' wedding. We had not seen each other in a good 15 if not 20 years. We look exactly the same of course. **Catherine Crawford Bradford** had her third child, little Benjamin, last December and is living outside of San Francisco in Marin. Aside from also mastering crowd control, Cath is working as a freelance editor of novels and books. **Cynthia Carter Roenisch** was elected to the Kentfield (Calif.) school board and has decided to go back to school to get a degree to teach high school English—a class I hope to sneak into and observe one day. She'll be terrific at it. **Ramiro Prudencio** is the father of curly-haired twins and still has the same employer I introduced him to about 20 years ago (got a $1000 check to prove it). He lives in Miami and I mean to call him, I really do, every time I go to Miami for some conference and then rats! I remember in the security line heading out that I forgot. As for myself, I've recently shifted careers and am running investor relations for a hedge fund in the Bay Area where I grew up. Recent exploits have included learning to ride a road bike with clips and seeing just how deeply I bruise. Plum purple to be exact. Against Irish white skin. The contrast is very MOMA." ✷ **Dan Curtis** enjoys life as a U.S. Navy chaplain. He was stationed with the Seabees in Gulfport, Miss., and headed out on deployment in the fall to Iraq and Afghanistan. He'd love to hear from old friends at chaplaincurtis@cableone.net and will gladly pass on messages of support for the sailors and marines with whom he's privileged to serve. ✷ **Alex Van Praagh** and wife Whitney welcomed their third child, a daughter, into the world in the fall. They live in Cambridge, Mass., where Alex practices architecture and Whitney is an illustrator. ✷ **Dan Robb**'s second book, *Sloop: Restoring My Family's Wooden Sailboat—An Adventure in Old-Fashioned Values,* was published by Simon & Schuster. *Publishers Weekly* called it "a charming tale" and *Wooden Boat* said, "The book will delight anybody who loves boats." ✷ **Tom Funk**'s first book, *Web 2.0 and Beyond: Understanding the New Online Business Models, Trends, and Technologies,* was published by Praeger. ✷ Film editor **Plummy Tucker** is in LA, at work on *Jennifer's Body*. The movie is writer Diablo Cody's follow-up to *Juno*, and is directed by Karyn Kusama. ✷ **Leslie Jonath**, writing under the name Elle J. McGuinness, recently published the picture book, *Bee and Me*. It's the first book to use patent-pending Ani-*motion*, developed at Accord Publishing. When not writing, Leslie is director of creative services at Chronicle Books in San Francisco.
—Class Correspondents: *Tom Funk (tfunk@timberlineinteractive.com); and Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com).*

Middlebury College Alumni Association 2009 Nominations

Alumni Trustees
S. Carolyn Ramos '93
Adrian Benepe '78, P'09

The full slate of nominees for the term of office beginning July 1, 2009, will be available for viewing on March 1, 2009, and voting on April 1, 2009. The deadline for voting is April 30, 2009. Please vote at *www.middlebury.edu/alumni/mcaa/.*

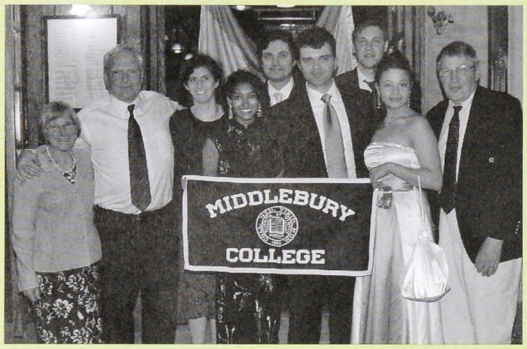
To appear in the online spring ballot, additional nominations must be received by March 1, 2009. These nominations must include a signed letter of acceptance, updated biographical information, a photo, and 200 alumni signatures endorsing your nomination.

For a paper ballot, more information, or to submit nominees, please contact: Alumni Office, McKinley House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753 or e-mail us at alumni@middlebury.edu.

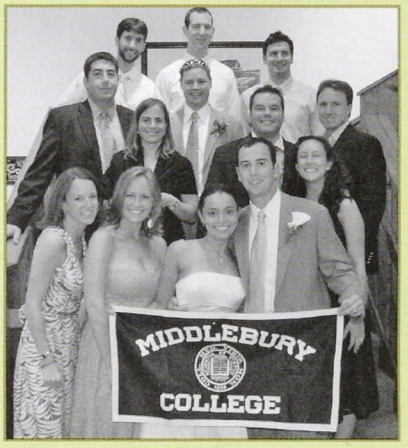
CELEBRATIONS

Middlebury friends gathered in Winthrop, Wash., for the June 17, 2006, wedding of Corinna Luyken '00 and MacLeod Pappidas: Abby Bradbury '99, the newlyweds, Brian Fisher '99, Sarah Roth-Brown '99, Phoebe Hausman-Rogers '99, Alexa Gilbert '00, Amy Gilbert '00, Sherry Schwarz '99, Eliza Collins '00, Jennifer Marlow '02, and Dane Springmeyer '02.

The wedding of Faith Peters '01 and John James took place on October 13, 2007, at the Basin Harbor Club in Vergennes, Vt. Friends and family helped the couple to celebrate: (all '01 unless noted) Sara Stewart Hellstedt '00, Susan Angst, the newlyweds, Michelle Labbe, (second row) Yasmin Mahal, Kate Lynch, Ashley Rabin, Annie Kloppenberg, Kiki Helffenstein, Lauren Cullings, (third row) Mike Saunders, Matt Rymzo, Britta Wiesner, Jill Rogers Coffrin '75, Michael Furlong '73, Erin Lechner, Laura Matefy Sealfon, Ross Sealfon '99, Anne Elkins, Andy Peters '03, and Nancy Coffrin Furlong '75.



Following a ceremony at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in NYC on April 28, 2007, Alexander Dubok '98 and Sayda Garcia celebrated their wedding with Middlebury friends: Nancy Warner Benz '56, Mike Ryan '73, Melissa Levy, Russian School '98, Cintra Batchoo '99, Aleksander Wolski '00, the newlyweds with Sergey Cherednichenko '01 behind, and Mark Benz '56.

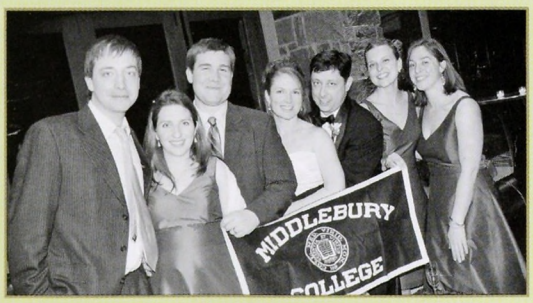


Karina Becerra '02 and Robb Dahir '01 were married on June 2, 2007, in a cliffside ceremony along the northern California coast. Afterwards they celebrated at the Gualala Arts Center with friends and family: Laura Smith '04, Emily Hruby '05, the newlyweds, Ali Dumouchel Duchesne '01, (second row) Katie Shutte Shogan '03, JF Duchesne '03, Brandon Klein '01, (third row) Andrew Shogan '01, John Batalis '01, (fourth row) Andrew Nichols '01, Zach Bourque '01, and Dan Goldman '01.

On October 7, 2007, Kara Delahunt '97 and Nick Bobrov '99 were married at Riverside Farm in Pittsfield, Vt. The many friends who joined in the celebration included (kneeling) Gianna Giannacopoulos, Cam Petke '99, John Giannacopoulos '00, the newlyweds, Alissa White Nilsson '97, Sahili Sheth '97, Kathy Kulis Dailey '97, Fernando Feria '97, Becca Dunning '97, Amy Smith Siuda '97, Carolyn Stewart Birbiglia '97, (second row) Sergei Davydov, prof. of Russian, Abbey Krasnow Edwards '97 with Katelynn, Martha Mullane '95, Natasha Kobran '99, Kate Lockwood Bracken '00, Ginny Reynolds Rowe '53, Mike Mone '64, Bill Delahunt '63, Craig Stewart '63, Chuck Gately '62, Larry Ring '63, Bruce Bailey '63, Coach Bill Beaney, Senake Gajameragedara '99, Peter Stephan '99, Joe Birbiglia '97, (third row) Chris Farion '98, Shannon Farion, Jeff Anastasio '99, Eric Zink '00, Alyssa Pappas Zink '00, Dave Bracken '00, Dee Rowe '52, Mark Spence '98, Laura Matefy Sealfon '01, and Ross Sealfon '99.

Several Middlebury alumni helped Carol Carlton Spooner celebrate her 80th birthday on Nantucket, Mass., in August: Margaret Leslie Hall '38, Carol Carlton Spooner '50, Jane Murdoch Baker '50, (second row) Jean Huey Smolens '48, Virginia Hardy Moser '50, Jackie Brooks Davison '50, Helen Highley Matel '50, Kate Iacocca Hentz '81, Joanne Hall Johnston '67, (third row) Stephen Baker '52, and Ned Hentz '80.

On October 27, 2007, Maureen Quinlan and Laki Rousou '97 were married at the Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham, Mass. Friends who helped to celebrate were Timothy Cron '97 in front, (back row) Bob Clarke '63, Rob Patterson '99, Steve Carre '97, Farah-France Marcel '00, Kyle Burke '97, Aaron Baggish '97, the newlyweds, Michael Moore '97, Adam Minnick '97, Alyson Holmes Tierney '97, Ricky Durst '97, and Shawn Tierney '97.

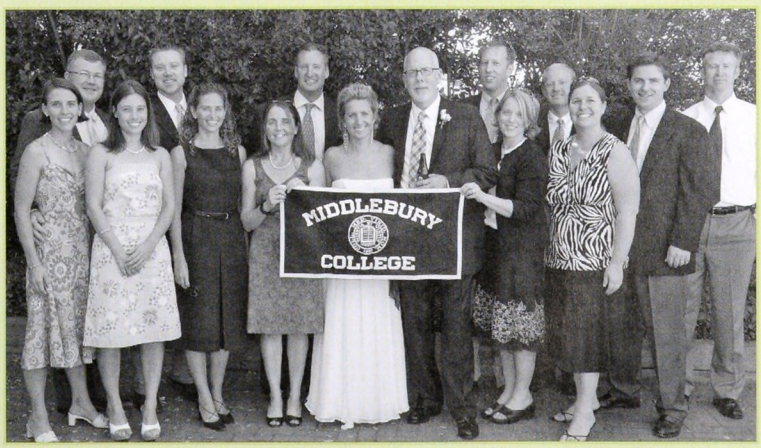


Sarah Waybright '99 and Aaron Barr were married on March 17, 2007. Friends and family joined them for a week of celebration and skiing in Jackson Hole, Wyo.: Alex Nicholson, Russian School '93, Samantha Webb Kading '99, Matt Kading '98, the newlyweds, Justine Kwiatkowski '99, and Heather Budd '99.

Friends from the Class of 1976 had a fabulous rendezvous on the island of Cuttyhunk, Mass., in August at Betsy Sherman Walker's home overlooking the harbor: Paula Raphel Crowley, Anne West, Wanda Seeley Stetson, Betsy Sherman Walker, and Jill Cowperthwaite. Lone, brave Midd male Steve Garfield '80 joined them.

This year the Waynflete School in Portland, Maine, found its Parents' Association led by a trio of Middlebury graduates who are all eighth grade parents: Kari Sides Suva '75 with daughter Phoebe, Beth Mooney Longcope '79 with daughter Claire, and Deborah Shinn '73 with daughter Miranda.

Camila Sosman '98 and Andrew Palmer were married in the Catskills on October 20, 2007.



At St. Boniface Martyr Church in Sea Cliff, N.Y., Gloria Ehrenberg '95 married Greg Schaefer on October 6, 2007. Midd friends helped celebrate at the reception at the Sea Cliff Yacht Club: (all '95 unless noted) Karen Engler Bartlett, Heather Fremgen, Lori Frohlich Cooper '94, Liz Siris Winchester, the newlyweds, Kara Sweeney, Pooky Rubel Jennings '98, (back row) Jud Bartlett, Jeff Paré, Ray Strong '91, Jon Hanlon '93, Ryan Jennings '93, Alex Cobb '95, and Andy Enright. Missing from photo is Kim Smith Spacek.

class

88

Melissa Perry Winborn writes, "I just received my Midd mag and realized that I don't think I've added anything to our class column since I had my first child, Beau, who, by the way, graduated from Timber Creek High School with 30 AP credits and turned 18 last summer. Wow! Time flies. He's studying engineering at the Univ. of Fla. (Go Gators!) Alexa (16) is studying both Chinese AND Arabic in high school and we hope to get her into Midd in two years if I can sell a kidney (or two). William (13) loves to play soccer and poker. (I'll have run out of kidneys by then so we're trying to give him a way to make tuition money.) Last, but certainly not least, is Anna-Presley (doesn't everyone have a child named after Elvis?) who's 12 and can beat us all in poker. She was part of a National Championship cheerleading squad last year and when she's not beating us in poker or doing flips, she's a straight-A student. (Clearly all of my children were switched at birth.) I am in my 10th year of teaching first grade in public school and LOVE it. Sorry I missed reunion, but it fell on Beau's graduation weekend and I figured I actually needed to see the boy walk across the stage with my own two eyes. By the way, I bring greetings from fellow '88ers **Frisk Ewing Miller**, **Laura Ludwig**, **Melissa Ellsworth Jones**, and **Kim Maynard Martin**. All five of us try to keep in touch via e-mail and get together 'sans' children or spouses for an annual retreat. I can't say we get too wild, but we try real hard to stay up past 10 p.m. Woo Hoo! Best wishes and if anyone is ever in Orlando, Fla., look me up (mississippimissy@yahoo.com)!" ✳ From Paris, **Bridie Jennings Dumont** writes, "I'm continuing to grow my business as an international communications consultant here in France where, despite the shrinking advertising budgets worldwide, the global marketplace continues to dominate the playing field. As French companies look to reach their English-speaking audiences, I'm writing and translating, interpreting, advising my clients, adapting marketing and PR material, and loving the magic of choosing just the right combination of words to convey ideas and persuade people. It's great being my own boss since I can use all of my past experience to manage everything from A to Z while still playing an active role in my two boys' lives. Julien has just transitioned into middle school where his big brother Cedric (now taller than me!) has been for two years. They're both fluent in French, American, and Spanish. My husband, Jean-Marc (who I met my first Friday night during junior-year abroad—whoa, so long ago), has finally made the leap out of multinational corporate IT sales into his own business (by my side, but in a whole other field—sailing!). I'm still horseback riding and mountain biking, volunteering at the kids' international school, and recruiting for Midd." ✳ **Missy Geisler** writes, "I live in hot Florida but I love it here in Palm Beach. My life consists of organizing volunteers for charity events of which there are plenty. I'm a member of the garden club and active in the West Palm Beach Rotary. I love the beach and love biking so I can see the mansions behind the high hedges. But I do miss the Vermont mountains. Labor Day Weekend I was commodore for the 38th Annual Lake Placid Clamatta Regatta, which attracted 40 sailboats. It's a big party, but I worked on it all year and I had a blast! Be in touch! (pzzzaz1@bellsouth.net)" ✳ **Jed Smith** sent this update: "Still having a blast in San Francisco. Loving all things better for the environment. **Ebbe Altberg** just moved to Switzerland. **Dave** and **Annie Peterson Buckland** recently moved to Park City, Utah. Hirsch (**Marc Hirschfield**) is still cranking in Jackson Hole with three kiddies. **Rob MacLeod** has settled into the beautiful coast of New Hampshire, working for a regional investment bank. I see Pundy (**Ingrid Punderson Jackson**) about once a quarter when I get back to Midd. Gorgeous home on Cider Mill Rd. **Tom Battelle** lives up the road from us in Marin County. **George Lee** lives the next town over and we hack it out on the tennis courts whenever he takes an exhale from Goldman Sachs excitement. **Clark Munnell**'s closer to world headquarters. It's been great getting to know **Michael Obel-Omia** and Petey (**Steve Peterson**) on the Midd board of trustees. Good times. Peace!" ✳ Speaking of Michael, this past summer he rode in the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge from Wellesley to Provincetown, a bike ride to raise money for cancer. Having raised over $6,000, he felt the 164-mile ride was one of the most life-affirming activities he has ever done.

—Class Correspondents: *Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatko@yahoo.com); and Beth Zogby (zogby@alumni.middlebury.edu).*

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REUNION CLASS

Don't forget to return to campus for our 20th reunion June 5–7! At that time we'll be looking for people to take over as the class correspondents for our class. ✳ This past summer, the Westchester (N.Y.) Medical Group announced that **Anne Marie Roe** had been appointed to its ob/gyn department. With a medical degree from SUNY-Buffalo, she was previously an attending physician in the division of reproductive genetics, department of ob/gyn and women's health at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center.

—Class Correspondents: *Keith Pennell (kpennell@dfwcapital.com); and Jeff Somers (jeffs@zillow.com).*

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Classmates on the move! After seven years at White & Case, **Gary Sedlik** joined La Curacao October 1 as their in-house assistant general counsel. La Curacao is a rapidly growing retail, restaurant, credit card, telecommunications, Internet, and other services company catering to the Hispanic community. At home, Gary keeps busy chasing and untangling his two sons, Noah (5) and Owen (3), and preparing for the (Senior) PGA Tour. ✳ After 18 years in PR and marketing, **Pam Rosser Thistle** has switched gears to real estate, joining the Cornely Group at Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors in Chestnut Hill, Pa. Pam invites anyone looking to make a move in or near Philadelphia to contact her: pam.thistle@prufoxroach.com. Pam lives within easy walking distance of her new office (go green!) with husband Mike and daughters Zoe (6) and Sally (4), who attend Springside School in Chestnut Hill. Pam sees **Betsy Brubaker McGill** occasionally since she lives nearby. Betsy and her husband have an adorable baby boy. ✳ More baby news—Deanna and **Phelps Wood** introduced Phoebe Christine to the world on August 6. ✳ **Kim Gager Daly** and husband Jon welcomed Elizabeth Shawn into their family on May 15. She joined older sister Samantha (3). They live in Andover, Mass., where Kim is director of business development for MajescoMastek, and Jon is a senior analyst at Putnam Investments. ✳ Finally, the saddest kind of news to report: **Phil Mahoney** died on November 11 from injuries sustained in a car accident. We send our most heartfelt condolences to wife Nicole and his two daughters. Philbo was a lovely friend and we were lucky to share four years with him at Midd and have him in our lives.

—Class Correspondents: *Dawn Cagley Drew (dmd_phr@hotmail.com); and Elizabeth Toder (eatoder@hotmail.com).*

91

Heidi Ripley Fowler writes, "Benjamin Ripley Fowler was born February 25, 2008, and joined big sister Elizabeth (3). We're still living in Midland, Mich., where I am a stay-at-home mom and Harry works for Dow Chemical. This past summer I saw **Debbie Walton Collins** during a family visit. She and husband Dan have sons Kevin (9), Sean (7), and Danny (4). They live in Queensbury, N.Y., and Debbie is MyLearning director/North America learning manager with Capgemini Univ." ✳ **Jim Phillips** is still a professor of chemistry at the Univ. of Wis.-Eau Claire and is now department chair. Professional life is busy, with teaching, a federally funded undergraduate research program, and an onslaught of administrative duties. In the community, he has become very involved, serving on committees for the Eau Claire school district, and co-chairing the group that organizes the local Earth Day Festival. His personal life is busy, too, with twin daughters (11) starting middle school. Somehow he also finds time to play bass in a blues/rock band, skate with the UW-EC Hockey Profs (a faculty/staff club hockey team), and occasionally fish, paddle, hike, and hunt. He has seen and heard from a few old friends over the past few years, but has lost contact with a few as well. "Find me you guys."

—Class Correspondents: *Bill Driscoll (william.driscoll@rhi.com); and Kate J. Kelley (katejkelley@gmail.com).*

92

Jason Craven and his wife welcomed son Benjamin on May 2. They live in Denver, Colo., near fellow alumni **Luke** and **Christine Roberts Wennik**. **Tammy Caruso Dalton** was hoping to see them all in late December on the ski slopes! ✳ **Laura Bozarth** and husband Win Turner were delighted to welcome their third son, Graham, born July 23. Brothers Fletcher (2) and Jasper (4) were cautiously optimistic. She's living in Montpelier and would love to hear from classmates. ✳ **Tracey Merrill** and **Eric Wellmann** make their home in Cohasset, Mass., with sons Joseph (8), Victor (5), and Maxi (terrible 2). ✳ **Kingman Gordon** reports that all is well in San Francisco. After eight years at ESPN, he joined the *Wall Street Journal* as director of ad sales for the West Coast and Asia, specifically focusing on the launch of a new magazine called *WSJ*. On the home front, he is now a father. "Wife Shelley turned in a gold medal performance with a very smooth and fast delivery, while baby Gordon performed a grand, yet graceful, dismount!" Alan Stark Gordon arrived on August 19 and is named after Kingman's grandfather, "a very humble, gracious, and honest man who was loved and admired by any who met him. We hope that Stark will be half the man that he was." In his travels, Kingman has seen many Midd folks. He reports that the tri-state area around New York continues to be home to classmates **John Rudge**

and **Sara Weale**, **Tristram Perkins**, **Christian Faber**, **Charlie Watson**, **Jon Owsley**, **Bill Tice**, and **Eric Mendelsohn**. On the West Coast, he has seen alumni **Matt Pauley**, **Rob Reis**, **Drew Meyers**, Ian Morton '91, and **Packy Briggs** and hopes to see the rest of the Midd contingent (there are a ton) soon! ✳ **Carolyn Eppes Gilbert** recently moved back to Chicago from Shaker Heights, Ohio, with husband Jon and children Lilly (4.5) and Jackson (20 mos.). They're living downtown in Lincoln Park and are enjoying city life. "We're so excited to be back in the city where we first met. Jon works in private equity for Jordan Industries. I'm getting certified to teach pilates. We spent the summer finalizing the sale of our house, moving, and enjoying 10 days in Italy without our kids! Last weekend **Kate Albin Lindberg**, husband Tom, and boys Carter (6) and Bennett (3.5) came down from the Chicago suburbs to spend a night. We had a blast!" Carolyn also keeps in close touch with other '92 alumni, including **Lynne Adams Winings**, **Christine Bushey Leggett**, **Campbell Barrett Hellandsvik**, and **Lisa Balaschak**. ✳ After 16 years of serving as president and systems analyst of her consulting company, **Courtney Mather** left this past summer to spend a year in Ecuador as a WorldTeach volunteer. She lives with a host family in Cuenca, the third largest city in Ecuador. ✳ **Susan Liu Crawford** lives happily in Upper Bucks County, Pa., with husband Peter and daughters Kathia (8) and Annika (4.5). The family expanded this year with the addition of a black Labrador puppy named Huckle. Susan continues to practice municipal law in northern New Jersey.
—Class Correspondents: *Tammy Caruso Dalton (dalton.tammy@gmail.com); and Sara Garcia McCormick (smg70@gate.net).*

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Joy and **Steve Prescott** welcomed second son Griffin Merrill Prescott on July 16. "Big brother Sawyer (3) is looking forward to their many adventures together. Also new to our homestead (though less dear to our hearts) are 11 organic egg-laying chickens of various breeds. Suddenly, ours is a very busy household." ✳ **Eric Sevigny** sent this update: "I'm an assistant professor of criminology and criminal justice at the Univ. of South Carolina in Columbia. I earned my degree from the Univ. of Pittsburgh in 2006 and spent a year as a visiting scholar at Michigan State before arriving in Columbia. My research and writing focuses on drug policy, sentencing, and incarceration. While my friends like to jest that I'm working toward legalization, I'm in the camp of critically evaluating the drug war, insensible sentencing policies, and problems of mass incarceration. My wife, Emily Heberlein, works as a manager of evaluation and outcomes for a nonprofit agency that supports the provision of quality mental health and substance abuse treatment. We have a son, Neil (16 mos.), who is our joy and entertainment. If anyone plans on traveling in or around Columbia, send an e-mail to connect (sevigny@mailbox.sc.edu). We are 'nonfamilied' in this part of the country and would welcome visits from friends. Highlights include a tour of the Confederate flag at the State House." ✳ **Brooke Wynkoop Le Clear** lives in Silver Lake (between Hollywood and downtown LA) with husband Benjamin. They had three weddings—one at Burning Man, where they met, one in Reno, and one for the family in Hollywood. She's the programs director for Golden Bridge Yoga, the largest yoga center in the country, and she also teaches there twice a week. She says she gets to see Paul Hughes '94 semi-often as he lives close by, and she loved having **Brad Williams** out in California for the wedding. ✳ In October, Constellation Energy announced that **Jack Thayer** had been appointed chief financial officer. He previously served as VP and managing director of corporate strategy and development.
—Class Correspondents: *Maria Diaz (latinawriting@gmail.com); and Laura LeClair Grace (elsygrace@gmail.com).*

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REUNION CLASS

Jim Oleske published a book this past fall entitled *Yeah, Right: "This Economy Is Strong" and Other Tall Tales*. Using statements made by politicians, talk show hosts, etc., about the strength of the economy, he juxtaposes their remarks with the economic facts to show the disparity. Jim is a former labor attorney and experienced legislative aide. He most recently served as chief of staff to the Oregon Senate Majority Leader and previously served as counsel to the U.S. Senate Democratic Leader. ✳ **M. Helene Robertson** has been living in Hawaii for the past four years, feeling so far away from and out of touch with everyone, especially Middlebury friends. She is engaged to Robert Doll (non-Midd) and they have a one-year-old daughter, Sasha Hartley Doll. Recently, Sara Garcia McCormick '92 and husband Alex stopped by Hilo to spend the afternoon with Helene, Robert, and Sasha while on a 10-day vacation to the Big Island. It's been a few years since Helene has had a visit (Tabitha Jenkins '92 and Jeremy Patlen '96 also get big props for making the trip) and would like to extend the invitation to her classmates and other alumni, if you happen to be anywhere near the middle of the Pacific Ocean, to drop on by. Aloha! ✳ Dan and **Kellie Rohrer Hemme** had their first child, daughter Sydney Vaughn, on July 13. "We live in Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass., and are already looking forward to bringing Syd to the beach next summer!" ✳ **Adam Gilden Tsai** has moved to Denver, Colo., with wife Jean and daughter Miriam, who was born in October 2007. Adam and Jean will both be working at the Univ. of Colo.-Denver, Adam in internal medicine and Jean in neurology. Fellow Midd alums are welcome to visit.
—Class Correspondents: *M. Helene Robertson (mhrobertson.94@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Gene Swift (geneswift@gmail.com).*

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We love hearing from all our classmates in the Class of 1995. Keep the news coming to JP or Emily! ✳ A lot has happened to **Cynthia Bass Gensinger** since she last wrote in about her wedding. She's pleased to report that she now has two children, Caroline (4) and Luke (2.5). "I'm a full-time mother and am also completing my doctorate in education." ✳ It's been a long time since we heard from **Jon** and **Morgan Gaspar Herman**. They welcomed John "Jack" Patrick Herman on January 30, 2008. Jack joined older brother Dylan (2.5). ✳ **Mark Alan Sylvester** is still practicing law in Miami at the firm of Leesfield, Leighton & Partners and got together with classmate **Timothy Bianchi** in November when the New England Patriots took on the Miami Dolphins. ✳ Fabulous news comes from **Arnold** and **Wendy Ekman Lewis**. "We welcomed Carter Ekman Lewis to our family on August 13, exactly 18 months to the DAY of big sister Piper's birth, which was February 13, 2007!" Arnold is the associate dean of students at the Alexander Dawson School in Lafayette, Colo., where he was previously the world language chair. Wendy is still defending physicians who are sued for malpractice at Cooper & Clough in Denver. They would love to hear from Midd alums! (wlewis95@yahoo.com) ✳ **Julie Moriarty McDonough** and husband Gene welcomed Peter Moriarty McDonough on June 6. He joined big sister Natalie (20 mos.) at home in Natick, Mass. Julie is staying home with the kids these days, just trying to manage the chaos, and is looking forward to finding a local volleyball league! ✳ After five years of being an elementary school librarian for Rochester City Schools, **Nick Taranko** left that job to start law school at the Univ. of Buffalo and is swimming among all the law books. "Wife Jessica and I also just became owners of the Gymboree Play and Music Center in Pittsford, N.Y., where Jessica has worked for the past 10 years. Seth (14) is in high school and Sam (3) is in preschool. Kartik Balasubramanian '96 came out to visit us for a few weeks this summer, and it was great catching up with him. We still live in Geneseo and would love to hear from anyone living nearby or passing through (nick.taranko@gmail.com)." ✳ **Sarah Tuff Dunn,** husband Carlton, and daughter Dillon (2) welcomed son Harper on August 1! "Last spring we also shifted south from Burlington to Shelburne, from which I continue to freelance write." ✳ **Eric Wiener** has a lot of news to report. "In March, I left my job at WINK-TV in Fort Myers, Fla., to move to Las Vegas. So I guess I'm working my way clockwise around the country from New England to Florida to Nevada. I'm now at KVBC, the NBC station here. I produce the *Crimetracker 3* segment, which focuses on crime trends, family safety, and longer-form stories. Right now I'm in the middle of an investigation of online sex offender registries that I think just might change the way some police departments do their jobs. In September, I got to hang out with **Jim Rodda**, who was in town for an arcade game manufacturer's convention." ✳ **Jennifer Willingham** is back working in Burlington, Vt., after completing a two-week hiking expedition in Switzerland last summer with her dad. ✳ Remember the last time we heard from **Clay Blanchard**? (It's been a while.) Well, here's some news from him: "I lived in Asia (Vietnam and Thailand) for seven years and returned to the U.S. for business school in 2004. I'm living in San Francisco now and working for a start-up food company called Kaia Foods. We make a delicious 'raw' (minimally processed) granola that is now available all over the West Coast and in Canada. Start-up life is a little bit crazy, but I'm really enjoying the work. This is the first time I've tried anything entrepreneurial, so it's strange new (but rewarding) territory for me. Also, I have a two-year-old golden retriever named Finley and have been busy beginning training for an Olympic-distance triathlon." ✳ **Katharine Berry Swartz** sends greetings from her new home in NYC, where she moved with her family last summer. On October 17 she and her husband welcomed Anna Dorothy, who joined her two sisters and brother. Katharine continues to write under her own name as well as the pseudonym Kate Hewitt and is enjoying all the city has to offer families. She has also enjoyed meeting up with '95 alums **Abby Smith Liu** and

Aidan Sullivan. ✳ Elise and **Nick Toren** are happy parents of son Jude, born last January. Nick has been acting mainly on TV since moving to LA in 2005 but, beginning in November, he was acting in the play *School of Night* at the Mark Taper Forum. ✳ **David Barlow** appeared on *Without a Trace* on September 23, 2008.

—Class Correspondents: *Emily Aikenhead Hannon (hannon.emily@gmail.com); and JP Watson (jpwatson@athensacademy.org).*

96

Christy Thomsen married Joe Covalesky on June 21, in Carmel, Calif. They were joined by Midd friends **Sid Suri**, **Tracy Varghese**, **Jason** and **Christy Picard Dimmig**, **Mo Renganathan**, **Laurel Cox**, and **Susie Van Buren**. Congratulations Christy & Joe! ✳ Emil '98 and **Melissa Morrissey Jattne** welcomed son Hudson on June 25. He joined big sister Stella (3). The Jattnes live in Miami. ✳ **Weezie Edsell Henderson** and husband Seth welcomed Margaret Morgan Henderson on July 19. Taylor (2) has taken to her new role as big sister, wanting to hold Baby Morgan at every opportunity. The Hendersons live in Mountain View, Calif. ✳ **Kirby Winfield** recently joined online ad network WidgetBucks as chief revenue officer. **Alison Vollbracht Winfield** is still helping Microsoft take over the world one PC at a time, and Kirby III (2) is a huge sports fan. Too bad for him they decided to stay in Seattle. ✳ **Steve Kocaj** and wife Irene Cho are doing well, having settled into suburban life in New Jersey. Son Max got a younger brother, Oliver, last February. Irene is finishing up her fellowship in endocrinology and can't wait to be done with all of this medical training. (Note to Kocaj—when your lovely Wellesley-grad bride has to send in your Middlebury updates, it's time to get in touch.) ✳ **Chris Andrews** and wife Daryl welcomed daughter Alessa Esther Andrews on August 24. The Andrews family, which includes big sister Hayden (2), recently bought a new house in Brookline, Mass. Chris is a senior analyst at Forrester Research and Daryl is an attorney at Sherin and Lodgen LLP. ✳ **David Wolman** will be speaking at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education conference in San Francisco in March. The title of his session is "Everybody Wants To Be a Spelling Cop: Now's the Chance to Earn Your Badge." See Book Marks to read about his new book. ✳ Please continue to send us your news—we love hearing from you!

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97

Kara Delahunt works as a freelance photographer in the Boston area covering news and events. You can check out her Web sites at www.karadelahunt.com and www.karadelahuntweddings.com. ✳ **Christopher Beal** writes, "Wow, lots to catch up on. My wife Cheyanne and I got married in 2003. In 2006 I graduated from the Pacific School of Dentistry in San Francisco and started practicing in Santa Barbara and Ventura. In April 2007, Cheyanne and I celebrated the birth of our first child, Boden Charles Beal. In July 2008 I moved the family to the western slope of the Rockies in Glenwood Springs, Colo. I'd love to hear from any fellow alumni, especially those interested in visiting for skiing or fly fishing! My e-mail is chriscbeal@hotmail.com." ✳ A whole bunch of babies in 2008 to report for the Class of 1997! **Mark Felton** and wife Jennifer Quinn welcomed daughter Zanna Lee Felton-Quinn on February 27. ✳ On July 9, Franklin '98 and **Amy DiAdamo Foster** welcomed second son Samuel Hastings Foster. Sam joins big brother Henry (2.5)—Team Foster is doing great and enjoying life in South Hamilton, Mass. ✳ **Kate Oates Sweeny** and husband Michael excitedly announce that Grace Walker Sweeny made her debut on July 10—Macy (2) is enjoying her role as big sister. ✳ In NYC, Matthew Richard Burke was born on August 4. **Brian** and **Molly Lukins Burke** and sister Bailey (4) are thrilled with their new addition. ✳ **Christine McCann Hamner** and husband Scott welcomed second son Otis Wilson Hamner on August 4—big brother Fitz (2.5) is enjoying life in the 'burbs with his new sibling. ✳ August 15 was a busy day as **Hamilton Hadden** and **Patricia Parra** welcomed daughter Isabel Bianca in NYC—and later that day, just across the George Washington Bridge in New Jersey, **Keith** and **Maggie Bittinger Liljegren** said hello to second son Miles Latham Liljegren. Big brother Freddy (2.5) is enjoying his new title and has decided Miles can stick around. ✳ **Sara Hasan Nagy** and her family (including two cats) are moving to South Africa this winter for Jason's job with the U.S. Trade and Development Agency. "We hope some of you will visit us, especially since the World Cup will be there in 2010!"

—Class Correspondents: *Maggie Bittinger Liljegren (maggie.liljegren@gmail.com); and Catherine Mitchell Wieman (cnmitchell99@hotmail.com).*

98

Life is (sort of) back to normal for **Nate** and **Paige Budelsky Johnson**. Paige continues to warp young minds as a guidance counselor at Palo Alto (Calif.) High School. After grabbing his MBA from the Univ. of Mich., Nate oversees marketing for Earth and Maps at Google, home of the free lunch. In March, daughter Hadley arrived on the scene. With a name like that, she should be an admissions shoe-in for the Class of 2030! ✳ **Craig Bouchard** married Pam Rajasehkar in stunning Balboa Park in San Diego last fall. Tons of Midd Kids witnessed Craig and Pam enter the reception to the *Price Is Right* theme song. ✳ **Dave Thomas**, **Nick Lauriat**, and Nate Johnson (with Bouchard as a special guest) continued their epic pilgrimage to see every major league baseball stadium, crossing off Phoenix and San Diego this fall. That's 22 down, 8 to go. ✳ **Karu Kozuma** started his seventh year at Columbia Univ. and became director of residential programs this past summer. "I went to Midd's 10-year reunion and celebrated with **Chris Farrell**, Nick and **Courtney Kessler Lauriat**, **Stefanie Koperniak**, **Cat Wright**, **Megan Sowards**, and **Dan** and **Becky Walldroff Urbano**." ✳ Kevan '97 and **Katie Whittlesey Comstock** are incredibly happy to announce that son Spencer McKinley Comstock was born on August 12. ✳ **Irina Marinov** and Justin Khoury were married on January 4, 2008, on the Washington State ski slopes and followed their union by a religious ceremony on July 19 in Sherbrooke, Quebec. Family and friends gathered to celebrate the big moment, including father Corneliu Marinov (Midd visiting prof '00) and mother Anca Marinov (Midd visiting prof '01), Thomas and Virginia Hardy Moser '50, Milda Darguzaite '99, Mihai and Iuliana Marinov Aldea '03, and Sally Olson '03. The party was a blast and now Irina and Justin are looking forward to their move to Philadelphia, where they will both start teaching in the spring. ✳ **Cameron Dickson** and **Jan Groblewski** are thrilled to announce the birth of daughter Isabella Clementine on April 2. Jan is completing a fellowship in pediatric ENT surgery at Children's National Medical Center in D.C. Clementine has already visited Vermont three times!

—Class Correspondents: *Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@am.jll.com); and Nate Johnson (nate_johnson@mac.com).*

99 REUNION CLASS

Adam Dreiblatt sent in some updates on classmates: "**Tom** and **Miriam Laranjeira Kreuzer** welcomed a new addition to their family in London. All are doing well and the whole family is cheering the dollar's fall against the pound. **Ron Allen**, still in Boston, is a practicing labor attorney, and has been known to dominate the bocce courts in the North End. **Valentina Aulisi** is lost somewhere in upstate New York, working on the new Eddie Murphy movie. **David DeVito** married Cathleen Sims in August on Long Island. I just moved to Seattle but before I left Boston I ran into **Amy Ferenz Hampe**, who works in marketing at the Boston Museum of Science and **Liz Xanthopoulos**, who makes a mean tazeki sauce. She has also started a Facebook site for animal lovers of all types." ✳ Sarah and **Matt Mithun** welcomed baby Alex to the family this past fall. ✳ **Cameron Brown Garriepy** reports, "Mark and I welcomed son Felix Grayson on November 8, 2007. He even got to meet Becs, Jared, Elena, Nat and Helen, Allen, Brian, Amari and Parker last April. Now he's looking forward to reunion!" ✳ July 1 found **Sarah Jane Borch** beginning her residency in the Tufts Family Medicine Program in Boston. She received her MD in May from UConn School of Medicine where she was the student commencement speaker and the recipient of the Connecticut Academy of Family Physicians Award. A resident of Cambridge, Mass., Sarah still finds time to practice yoga, ride her bike, and explore the many fabulous restaurants there. ✳ **Peter Sax** reports, "Wife Molly and I welcomed our first child, Nathan Michael Sax, on March 9. We are moving to Brandon, Vt., where I will clerk for Judge Peter Hall on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals." ✳ Kimberly and **Rich Price** welcomed son Winslow Kent Price on April 3. His best buddy (and future Middlebury classmate?) is Jude Toren, son of Elise and Nick Toren '95. ✳ **Erik Maulbetsch** reports he is still bitter he didn't score the extra office ticket to Obama's speech, but is generally having fun defending civil liberties for the Colorado ACLU. ✳ After graduation from Penn Law and passing the bar, **Kirsten White** traveled in Africa and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro. She is now working as a lawyer in D.C. ✳ **Melissa Pruessing** and Blake Rutherford '00 caught up over steaks and cocktails at Smith and Wollensky's Grill in Chicago. ✳ **Brant Faircloth** remains at UCLA and might just finish his postdoc some day soon.

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00

After his son Will was born prematurely in 2006 and required special care, **Billy Reilly** and wife Alexis

organized the annual Pedaling for Preemies to benefit the Neonatal Intensive Care Units of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Children's Hospital. They credit both Boston facilities with providing the care that may have saved Will's life. This past September, in the Second Annual Pedaling for Preemies, Billy and Alexis led the 100-mile bike ride through eight Massachusetts towns, raising over $82,000 in direct funding for the NICUs of the two hospitals. ✳ This past fall **Nakhiah Goulbourne**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., received a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development award of $400,000. Her work on a new type of heart stent sensor helped earn her the award. Having completed her master's and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering at Penn State, she is one of the core faculty members in Virginia Tech's Center for Intelligent Material Systems and Structures. ✳ **Katie Lichtenstein** writes, "This past summer I took a break from grad school and work to spend six weeks in northern India. I rode trains across the plains during the hot monsoon, then hiked through the Himalayas studying the potential for ecotourism to boost village economies." ✳ **Adam Popkin** is still teaching high school history near Burlington, Vt., and is wading into the digital classroom age. ✳ **Jme McLean** and **Tim Dewey-Mattia** were married on September 6 in Point Reyes, Calif., and are living in Berkeley, Calif. Jme, who finished her dual master's in urban planning and public health last May, is now at a policy/action institute in Oakland, where she works to promote sustainable, equitable development and planning for healthy communities. ✳ **Jamie McBride** was married to Jan De Weer (Duke '92) in St. Louis, Mo., on July 18. The ceremony was held at St. Joseph's Church in Clayton and the reception—replete with a first dance medley featuring "Ice Ice Baby"—was held at the 1904 World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park. In attendance from Middlebury were Nate '98 and Paige Budelsky '98 Johnson, **Kirk German**, swim coach Peter Solomon and wife Andrea, Emily Egan, MA Spanish '07, and **David Babington**. Jan is VP of finance for HOK Architects and Jamie is a Spanish teacher at the Whitfield School, a K-12 independent school in St. Louis. ✳ **Marc Zelnick** finished his tour with the U.S. Army JAG Corps in Afghanistan. He reports that he is now "back working in Bavaria across the hall from the young judge advocate CPT Ian Hanna '02, who also lives in the flat below me in downtown Bamberg with his wife Kellie Jensen '02." ✳ **John** and **Kate Harrington Dickie** welcomed their second daughter, Kearney Cullinane, into the world on August 21. Kearney joins her big sister Nola in keeping Mom and Dad very busy!

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01

Arvind Ponnambalam reports, "I finished my residency in internal medicine at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., and will be starting a fellowship in pulmonary/critical care medicine in July 2009. In between residency and fellowship, I am working with Doctors Without Borders in Darfur, Sudan, for six months. It's been great catching up with Midd friends from all over the country at frequent weddings!" ✳ **Kristen Sylva Capodilupo** and husband Larry are the proud parents of twins Dylan Joseph and Maya Rose born on September 24. They are enjoying life as a new family of four in their home in Newton, Mass. ✳ **Garrett Dodge** and **Kristen Lyall** were married on a perfect sunny day at the Round Barn Inn & Farm in Waitsfield, Vt., on September 20. They spent their honeymoon in Curaçao after which they returned to their new home in San Francisco. Garrett started a job as marketing manager at a tech start-up called Rearden Commerce and Kristen will be working to finish her Ph.D. thesis. ✳ **Tamsen Fricke** traveled to London in September to visit **Cristina Warren** and her husband at their new residence. Their action-packed week included curry, fish and chips, and a trip to southern Portugal for some actual sunshine. Upon her return to the U.S., Tamsen hosted **Miranda Hillyard** in her newly established home in Washington, D.C. ✳ **Lindsay Frost** married Sam Bhasin (Hamilton '00) on September 20 in Queenstown, Md. Middlebury friends in attendance were **Mark** and **Jennie Mandeville Harrington**, **Kate Klapfish Caprari**, **Rifat Hasan** and **Gaurav Gupta**, **Ruth Howell**, **Russ Miller**, **Tom Hale**, Arvind Ponnambalam, Ashley Elpern '02, and **Mariah McKechnie-Fadwiecz**. Lindsay and Sam moved to Charlotte, N.C., last June. ✳ Mariah and husband Nick welcomed identical twin daughters, Lily Mae and Josephine Louise, on September 19, 2007! "We love our instant family and the girls are just amazing. We've already spent lots of time with Midd Kids, including fellow D.C. friends **Mike Alonzo**, **Chris Mitchell**, **Reid** and **Jen Cupani Porter**, Ben Howe '03, and Maressa Perreault '03. We've also had the girls in NYC visiting **Yuriy Nevmyvaka**, **Will** and Jessica Monroe '02 **Vaughan**, and **Dauvin Peterson** and his wife Vidi." ✳ **Sam McVey** was excited to begin a new position teaching Spanish and coaching football in one of the nation's best school districts, Katonah-Lewisboro in Westchester County, N.Y. After spending the summer overseas in Spain launching the U.S. division of Sky Ibiza for American clients vacationing on the white island in the Mediterranean, Sam is happy to be home in New York. Contact him if you're interested in visiting Ibiza (mcvey54@hotmail.com) and put Ibiza as the subject. Midd alums receive special discounts! ✳ **James Tsai** is enjoying his first year at Kellogg Graduate School of Management and can be reached at jtsai2010@kellogg.northwestern.edu. ✳ A variety of weddings this past year brought together Josh Broder '02, **Megan Hamilton**, **Lauren Wright**, **Effie Ransom**, **Sarah Day Guzman**, and Sean Hoskins '02. ✳ **Elsa Palanza** has begun her first year at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts Univ., focusing on political systems and Islamic civilization. She looks forward to catching up with Midd friends in the Boston area!

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02

Amanda Hakemian writes, "In April of last year I finished my Ph.D. at Northwestern Univ. Then, on April 19, my husband Aaron Miller and I welcomed our daughter, Emily Hakemian Miller, to the world. We have now relocated to central Wisconsin, where I just started as an assistant professor of chemistry at the Univ. of Wis.-Marshfield." ✳ Shortly after graduation, **Manuel Almenara** moved to London, where the fish and chips are plentiful. He has been working in the insurance brokerage industry, representing clients in Latin America and the Caribbean. ✳ **Katharine Wolf** started at Stanford Business School this past September, leaving her long career at Taco Bell. ✳ **Lauren Cacciapaglia** started Columbia Business School's Executive MBA Program this past fall, while working full time at Guggenheim Advisors in NYC. ✳ **Eric McCollom** and **Kristie Gonzalez** got hitched this past summer in Vermont. According to witnesses, **Joe Golting** showed up to the ceremony in a neon green Lamborghini, entertaining the crowd by popping wheelies in the parking lot. ✳ **Eamon Walsh Griffin** finished his master's in Spanish from Middlebury and is pleased to have a second Midd diploma. He celebrated by purchasing a home in Bridgeport, Conn. ✳ **Sydney Johnston** planned to spend the holiday season in India for one month with her mother. ✳ **Megan Sands** recently received her master's at Yale in public health and is pursuing her Ph.D. in epidemiology at Brown Univ. ✳ **Jon Simmons** is running a search engine marketing company which focuses on building and managing marketing campaigns that run on Google/Yahoo/MSN. ✳ **Abbie Vacanti** has been working as anchor producer for John Roberts and Kiran Chetry on CNN's American Morning. It was a crazy political season, traveling to both conventions and reporting on election night results. In addition, Abbie squeezed in time to rescue a destitute dog named Oscar. ✳ **Brad Corr** and Sara Horvitz were married on September 13 in Avon, Colo. Both are in their final year of med school at Vanderbilt Univ.

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03

A student at Dartmouth Medical School, **Andrea Russo** was recently selected as a 2008–2009 Rolf C. Syvertsen Scholar based on her academic achievement, leadership qualities, personal attributes, and community involvement. She hopes to have a career as an academic radiation oncologist. ✳ Alfred and **Kate Saltstein Bentley** are proud to announce the arrival of Alfred Young Bentley IV on August 2. ✳ Living in Southern California, **Zach Allen**, **Caleb Oberst**, and Michaela Dietz '04 have established the Los Angeles Middlebury Alumni Surfers or LAMAs. It has been a great way to stay in touch with alums in the area. ✳ Still living in Fond des Blancs, Haiti, and working for the St. Boniface Haiti Foundation, **Conor Shapiro** sent news about the dire situation there after the winds and rains of two tropical storms and hurricanes Gustav and Ike all struck within a month this past fall. Already living in poverty, the Haitians were hit hard by the destructive storms and Conor's foundation has been working to help them. If you'd like to learn more from Conor about the situation, you can contact him at conorshap@yahoo.com.

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04

REUNION CLASS

Paul Barnwell continues to teach eighth grade language arts in the Kentucky public schools. He says, "Maniacal middle school behavior gets easier to handle every

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Chinese

Jana Bergins-Laiz ('85) is the author of *Weeping Under This Same Moon* and *Elephants of the Tsunami*. She has taught at all grade levels, including postsecondary. ✷ **Liem Hua** ('00) recently left his job at Procter & Gamble to become the president of the nonprofit Iowa Asian Alliance, based in Des Moines.

English

Peter Carlos (MA '79) recently had his book *Dreamfish* published by Cornerstone Press. He teaches history of film and screenwriting at Lindenwood Univ. near St. Louis and is the station manager for LUTV. ✷ Poet **Bill Brown** (MA '89) recently led a creative writing workshop in Fairfield Glade, Tenn. A lecturer at Vanderbilt Univ., he is the author of four collections of poetry, three chapbooks, and a writing textbook. He has also had hundreds of poems published in journals, magazines, and anthologies. ✷ Retired and nursing a sick partner who has lung cancer, **Irene Williams Nicastro** (MA '89) remembers the summers in Ripton as life-giving summers. She says, "Thank you, Mr. Donadio." ✷ **Patrick Horgan** (MA '97) joined the middle/high school faculty this year to teach English at Ayer (Mass.) High School. He, his wife, and two boys (ages 5 and 3) live in Ashburnham, Mass. ✷ **Jonathan Freeman** (MA '99) writes, "Congratulations to my wife Rebecca Makkai (MA '04), whose story 'The Worst You Ever Feel' appears in *Best American Short Stories 2008*, edited by Salman Rushdie. Rebecca wrote the story at Bread Loaf several summers ago while auditing David Huddle's Contemporary Short Story class. The book is available now." ✷ **Ilene Gannaway** (MA '01) writes, "Husband Bobs and I welcomed twins Hadley Paige (named after Hemingway's first wife) and Brighton Everett, born on July 21. Fellow Bread Loafers and Los Angelinos **Jeanine Brown** (MA '99), **Steven Denlinger** (MA '99), and **Nat Damon** (MA '00) attended our coed babies shower, while my former high school English teacher, **Marilyn Kudell Wulliger** (MA '71), hosted a book shower. **Jumi Kim** (MA '03) and Raquel Bejar-Massey (MA Spanish '96) also prepped the twins for Croutons by sending such literary tomes as *The Napping House* and *Moo Baa La La La*. I hope to bring Hadley and Brighton to Vermont should I ever get around to pursuing an M.Litt. Mostly, I miss hanging out on the mountain with perpetual Bread Loaf student **Aurélie Perra** (MA '05 and M.Litt. any day now). I can be reached at bobsandilene@earthlink.net." ✷ **Heidi Berrell Rubin de la Borbolla** (MA '05) and husband Ian welcomed their first child, Aiden Emerson, on June 6 in Memphis, Tenn.

French

Joseph Reish (MA '67) was recently awarded a Lewisburg (Pa.) Area High School Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award. He is a professor of French at Western Michigan Univ. and dean of the Carl and Winifred Lee Honors College.

German

This fall, Summer Street Capital Partners announced **Jim Chambers** ('79) had joined the Buffalo, N.Y.-based private equity fund as an operating partner.

Italian

Michele Reiling McCaffrey (MA '79) is associate director of reference and instruction services at Durick Library, St. Michael's College in Vermont. She often tutors and teaches adult education classes in basic Italian. Michele would like to hear from **Michele Meloni** (MA '79) and **Frank Nigro** (MA '79) and anyone else from the 1978–79 program in Florence. ✷ Named the "World Series Baby," **Charlene Roth Mastro** (MA '05) was profiled on Waynesuburban.com this past fall when the Phillies were in the World Series. She was born on the day in 1980 that the Phillies last won the World Series.

Japanese

In October, Da-Lite Screen Company named **Adam Teevan** ('03, '04) as the director of Asian sales, responsible for maintaining and cultivating customer relationships in the Asia Pacific markets.

Russian

This past fall, **Vivian Schiller** (MA '85) was named president and CEO of National Public Radio, effective January 5. She writes, "I couldn't be more excited to join this important media organization and prestigious worldwide news operation. The only sad part for me is leaving NYTimes.com where I've been privileged to be a part of the New York Times family for almost seven years." She was the senior VP and general manager at NYTimes.com.

Spanish

Applewild School in Fitchburg, Mass., welcomed **Rose Antonecchia** (MA '94) to the Upper School as a Spanish teacher this school year. A former competitive gymnast, she also assists in field hockey and girls' lacrosse. She lives in Groton, Mass., with husband Blair Barnes (MA French '99) and their two children. ✷ Dr. **Ana Maria Wiseman** (DML '96) has been named dean of international programs at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C. She will continue as associate dean and associate professor of foreign languages. ✷ With a Ph.D. from the Univ. of Buffalo, **Tina Wagle** (MA '99) chairs the master of arts in teaching program at Empire State College in Buffalo and recently won the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service.

year." He also launched a reform-minded Web site, www.questionsforschools.org, over this summer while attending the Bread Loaf School of English in Santa Fe. ✷ **Colin Lewis-Beck** reports he has started a master's in statistics at the Univ. of Mich. ✷ Living in Paris, **Alexandra Godeberge** has been working for Reed MIDEM for three years and now is a sales manager for two annual international tradeshows specializing in real estate. She hopes to get back for reunion. ✷ In New Orleans, La., **Matthew Coons** has begun teaching in the middle school at New Orleans College Prep (NOCP), a public charter school. Saying that New Orleans has one of the most underserved and backwards public education systems in the country, he thinks NOCP can help change that fact. As all the teachers have named their homerooms after their alma mater, he's been collecting Middlebury memorabilia for his classroom. ✷ Also in Louisiana, **Kevin Cooper** has signed on for another season with the Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs of the Central Hockey League. Last season he had the best points-per-game average on the Mudbugs squad.
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05

Nick Emery is still living in Verona, Italy, working for a company based near Philadelphia called Travel for Teens. He spent two months during the summer leading groups of teenagers around Italy, and the rest of the year goes toward organizing those trips. Pat Abatiell '07 was his trusty sidekick for most of the summer, as Middlebury graduates continue to have a strong presence in this company. ✷ **Lia Lopez** is pursuing her MPH at Yale and enjoys a class called Contemporary Issues in Environmental Science. ✷ **Caitlyn Long** is the medic/assistant director at a nonprofit outdoor school in Boulder Creek, Calif., in the redwood trees of the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains. Jon Duckworth '04 works at a similar program nearby. This past summer Caitlyn rode her bike with two friends from Mount Vernon, Wash., to Bar Harbor, Maine! Taking about 10 weeks, it was a wonderful adventure. Caitlyn saw lots of Middlebury people in Portland, Ore., before she started the trip. Along the way she stayed with **Nathalie Wolfram** in Glacier National Park, with **Alex Barrett** in Lake Placid, N.Y., and with her sister Maribeth Long '03 in St. Johnsbury, Vt. Staying in Vermont after the trip, Caitlyn biked through campus and saw lots of Midd people. ✷ **Kate Miller** spent a few weeks traveling in Central America with **Susanna Preziosi**. They were in Guatemala and Belize and it was incredible—one of the best trips they've been on. Kate still lives in NYC and works downtown in the Bloomingdale's Soho store, where she is the visual manager. ✷ **Clare O'Reilly** started the environmental planning program in landscape architecture at Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, focusing on river restoration. She's enjoying the West Coast change! ✷ **Lizzie Hoeschler** returned from traveling through Asia for three months and moved to San Francisco to get her master's in counseling psychology at the Univ. of San Francisco. She enjoys being back in school, loves city life, and is having fun reconnecting with Middlebury friends in the Bay Area. ✷ **Tesalia de Saram** left New York last year to work with a human rights NGO in Sri Lanka. She was involved in a project dealing with children

displaced by the ethnic conflict. Working and living in her home country was an enriching experience for her, but she was happy to move back to New York in October. She reports that **David Belanich** is working on a Ph.D. in political science at Yale Univ., but is taking a year off to pursue an entrepreneurial opportunity in New York. He has started an education consulting business (tutoring and test preparation) called Emerson. ✷ Last July **Gale Berninghausen** returned from Mumbai, India, where she was living for eight months. She spent the first several months getting to know Mumbai, forming an interesting network of friendships with local Bombayites and exploring the contemporary art scene. She also visited historic sites in other areas of India, including Pune, Aurangabad, Hyderabad, Chennai, Pondicherry, Delhi, Varanasi, and smaller cities. In early March, she visited Sri Lanka and stayed with Tesalia at her lovely home in Colombo. In April, Gale started managing a contemporary art gallery, which brought her to international art fairs and exhibitions in Hong Kong and the southwestern coastal city of Cochin. After several very rewarding months of organizing exhibitions, meeting artists and collectors, and enjoying the artistic and cultural dynamism of Mumbai, it was time for Gale to come home to celebrate the weddings of her close friends **Natalie Guarin**, **Jess Manzer**, and Leah Koenig '04. ✷ **Dave Lindholm** moved to LA after the 2007 Middlebury soccer season and has been working for Chivas USA (a major league soccer team), doing lots of improv comedy, and freelance writing. He's living in Culver City with **Jeff King** and Tommy Heitkamp '06, who are also doing interesting things—Jeff is writing and working in the film industry and Tommy works with dinosaur bones, rare gems, and huge rocks.

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06

Marcus Hughes and Jennifer Kunzendorf were married in Maine on August 31, 2008. Midd friends attending the wedding were Andrew Chae '07, **Alex Gilman**, **Chi Nguyen**, **Terry St. Jean**, **Tim Foley**, and **Matthew Powers**. ✷ **Mary Mendoza** recently made the move from Vermont to Washington, D.C., to begin a Ph.D. program at American Univ. ✷ **Connie Winner** writes, "I'm living in Melbourne, Australia, for the year and am having a grand time! I live in St. Kilda across the street from a park with a lake and a 10-minute walk to the beach! It's absolutely gorgeous! If you're ever in the area, let me know!" ✷ **Liza Reed** joined the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association staff this past summer as the development manager. Previously she was the development associate with the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger where she helped build their fund-raising program. ✷ This past summer Rep. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) promoted **Calvin Garner** to legislative aide. Previously he served as legislative correspondent/press aide for Welch.

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07

Beth Butler, **Louisa Irving**, **Lauren Kiel**, **Maren Schultz**, and **Kacie Sherman** reunited in New York during this past July to celebrate the five former roommates all being on U.S. soil at the same time. Beth is teaching history and coaching track at the Lawrenceville School near Princeton, N.J. Louisa returned from a year teaching in China and is now dancing in NYC and with the Big APE Ensemble along with other Midd alums. Lauren is a residential real estate agent in NYC and, as a new company member of the Wreckio Ensemble, continues to pursue theater. Maren is an elementary school teacher at the Brunswick School in Greenwich, Conn., and a graduate student at Bank Street in NYC. Kacie is doing event planning and communications for a nonprofit in Cambridge, Mass. ✷ After graduating in February, **Leah Day** moved to NYC and works in the strategy group at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. ✷ **Carlos Beato** has been working as a Spanish literature teacher at Academy for Language and Technology in the South Bronx through NYC Teaching Fellows and as one of the founding teachers at the school. He traveled to Miami last spring with **John LoPresto** (who is working on his Ph.D. in psychology), as well as the Dominican Republic with Sully Diaz '06 during the summer. ✷ **Yev Saidachev** played this past year in his first professional season for the Fort Wayne Komets of the IHL. "We ended up having a record-breaking season and ended up winning the championship 3-2 in a dramatic fashion in triple overtime. We were down three games to one in the best of seven series and ended up coming back and winning the Turner Cup." For this season he has joined the Central Hockey League and plays for the Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs down in Shreveport, La., with Kevin Cooper '04. ✷ **Rebecca Browngoehl** works at the NYU Stern School of Business and is pursuing her master's in leadership, politics, and advocacy in education. She wrote her summer thesis on the ideologies and vision of John McCardell during his presidency at Middlebury. ✷ **Carol Guest**, **Emily Wheeler**, **Olivia Lew**, **Austen Levihn-Coon**, and **Lindsey Franklin** worked in Michigan for the Obama campaign. Although they were stationed all across the state and never had time to see one another, it was great to know that they were in it together, working the same long hours, making the same hundreds of phone calls, and putting their hearts and souls into the successful campaign. ✷ **Evan Thompson** is playing professional basketball in Denmark.

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08

It has been great to catch up with many of our classmates. ✷ **Nate Randall** is in northern Italy for the year improving his Italian and teaching English. ✷ **Mercedes Huff** is in Moscow, Russia, interning as a veterinary assistant. ✷ **Drew Livermore** is in Madrid, Spain, working as a North American language and culture assistant. ✷ **Mickey Gilchrist** is playing hockey in Japan now. ✷ **Erica O'Brien** is at the Univ. of Bristol in England, starting an MA in art history. ✷ Lots of Midd Kids in New York: **Sarah Bray** is working at CondéNet (the digital sector of Condé Nast magazines) in the sales and creative services department. ✷ **Sara Cowie** started at OutCast Communications in the PR division, following her return from a six-week trip to Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia. ✷ **Althea Webber** works at a law firm as a paralegal, as does **Lilly Fitzpatrick**. ✷ **Drew Walker** works as an analyst at Morgan Stanley. ✷ **Nick Monier** and **Mallory Hicks** started with Teach For America. ✷ **Amanda McLane** has been working at Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as a clinical research assistant in the radiation oncology department since June. ✷ **Greg Bassell** recently started work at Kintetsu World Express, an international import/export transportation and logistics corporation. ✷ Other Midd Kids are in Boston: **Robbie de Picciotto** works as a risk management consultant at Benfield. ✷ **Amanda Brickell** is working at Cambridge Associates consulting firm. ✷ **Lauren Van Wagenen** is working at Belmont Hill School as a French and Spanish teacher. ✷ **Caitlin Taylor** and **Libby Marks** work at Massachusetts General Hospital. ✷ In D.C., there's good '08 representation: **Walker Dimmig**, **Aaron Colodny**, **Guillermo Garcia**, **Jake McComb**, **Joel Martinez**, and Maxine Warren '07 are in the Capitol. ✷ **Anna Chavis** is a research assistant at ICF International. ✷ Chicago has a few Midd grads, all living in the Lincoln Park area: **Jen Henderson** is working at JPMorgan Chase. ✷ **Emi Neithercut** started at Credit Suisse and lives with **Maggie Higgins**. ✷ **Laura Lee** is in her first year at DePaul Law School. ✷ Out on the West Coast, **Bonnie Hemphill** moved to Seattle for climate policy and local elections work. She's enjoying the new mountains, new coffee, new lakes, and new bus routes. ✷ **Sean van Laer Walton** is in his first year at Seattle Univ. School of Law. Over the summer, he utilized the school's early enrollment option and took criminal law, which he aced due to his Middlebury background in legal studies. ✷ **Robbie Potish** started at the Univ. of Washington architecture school this past fall and lives with **Ben Hanna**. ✷ **Ryan Tauriainen** is living on the north shore of Oahu, Hawaii, and through the Teach For America program is closing the achievement gap for seventh graders by teaching English on the Wheeler Army Airfield. ✷ Although many of us wish we were back at Midd, some of the class of 2008 is still there. **Sarah McGowen Franco** recently started working at our glorious alma mater as an independent contractor for the Project on Creativity and Innovation in the Liberal Arts. For the next year, she will be conducting research on the extent to which creativity and innovation is present in the College experience and, if so, how these qualities have positively influenced our alumni. Her office is in the Old Stone Mill and has an amazing view of Otter Creek. She also cycled 30 miles on Le Tour de Farms with **Caitlin Moseman**, sampling the season's finest fresh foods at local farms along the way. ✷ **Matt Boucher** and **Andy Mittelman** are CRAs on campus, and **Chrissy Fulton** is an admissions officer for Midd. ✷ **Andrew Harris** is helping to coach the Midd basketball team. ✷ **Elyse McNiff** is working as a graduate intern for the art museum, as well as helping to coach the sailing and track and field teams. ✷ **Joe Swensson** is pursuing a career in skiing and is training out of a ski academy in Vermont. He also headed to Austria in October and will go back again later in the winter to train and race with the British National Ski Team as a guest.

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28 **Elizabeth Hayes Balch**, 100, of Rogue River, Ore., on August 24, 2008. After earning her degree from Southern Oregon Univ., she taught elementary school in Vermont and Oregon. She was a member of Phi Mu Sorority, the Oregon Education Assoc., the National Retired Teachers Assoc., and the Rogue River Friends of the Library. Predeceased by husbands Lester West and Dan Balch and son Wayne West, she is survived by two grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

31 **Linnea Wall Parker**, 98, of West Chatham, Mass., on August 25, 2008. Beginning her career in education, she taught at Rutland (Mass.) High School, became a dietitian at a private school, tutored students in remedial reading, and finally became a school librarian. Eventually she became the manager of the bookstore at Assumption College. Predeceased by husband Kenneth '31, she is survived by sons Kenneth and Albert. Deceased Middlebury relatives include brother-in-law James Roberts '36, nephew-in-law William Cahill '53, and nephews Francis '39 and Jackson Parker '48. Surviving Middlebury relatives include sister Doris Wall Roberts '36, niece Jeanne Parker Cahill '52, nephew Harold Parker '44, great-nephews William Cahill '82, Michael Cahill '83, Sean Cahill '85, Robert Cahill '87, and Timothy Cahill '91, and great-great-nephew Matthew Cahill '10.

33 **Janet Stainton June**, 97, formerly of Brandon, Vt., on July 17, 2008. With two summers at the Middlebury French School, in the early 1960s she joined the language department at the newly organized Otter Valley Union High School in Brandon, retiring in 1977. She served on numerous local boards including the board of trustees of Brandon Library and both the Brandon School and Otter Valley Union High School boards. Predeceased by husband Milton, she is survived by son David '63 and his wife Carol Gillen June '66, five grandchildren including Rebecca Tefas '96, and one great-grandchild. Deceased Middlebury relatives include daughter Cynthia June Chase '59.

34 **William D. Stull**, 94, of Fort Myers, Fla., on May 11, 2007. With an MS from Middlebury and a Ph.D. from the Univ. of Maryland, he taught zoology at Ohio Wesleyan Univ. from 1945 until his retirement in 1977. In 1966 he taught in Jodhpur, India, and in 1973 he led the first of an annual Ohio Wesleyan trip to the Galápagos Islands. He was predeceased by wife Elisabeth (Coghill).

35 **John H. Blake**, 95, of Naples, Fla., on June 2, 2008. With an MA in biology from Cornell Univ., he taught high school sciences at New Britain (Conn.) High School for 36 years as well as some college biology courses at Teacher's College in New Britain. In 1978 he and his wife moved to Naples where they became actively involved in the community. Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Patricia (Payzant), and children Margaret Jack and Robert Jack. Deceased Middlebury relatives include cousin Emerson Ross '20.

Eugene J. Tillman, 95, of Dover, Mass., on August 16, 2008. With a degree from Tufts School of Dental Medicine, he served as a dentist during WWII and after the war continued in the Reserve, running a prosthodontic clinic at the former Murphy Army Hospital in Waltham, Mass. After retiring as a colonel in 1957, he had a dental practice for 37 years and was a professor of dentistry at Tufts. In 1987 he was recognized by the Massachusetts Dental Society for 50 years of distinguished service. He is survived by wife Hilde (Feige).

36 **Barbara Warner Barry**, 93, formerly of Hudson, N.Y., on June 18, 2008. Originally a teacher of Latin, she changed fields, and after obtaining certification, became a high school guidance counselor. She worked first in the Ockawamick (N.Y.) Central School District then the Taconic Hills (N.Y.) Central School District. Predeceased by husband William, she is survived by daughter Margaret Cozzens, sons Michael and William, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

38 **Graham S. Newell**, 92, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., on June 20, 2008. After earning his AB from the Univ. of Chicago, he taught at St. Johnsbury Academy from 1938–1947. He returned to the Univ. of Chicago to earn his master's in Latin and work towards his Ph.D. In 1959 he joined the faculty of Lyndon State College as a professor of history and served as chair of the social sciences department until his retirement in 1979. During this time he was a member of the Vermont General Assembly, from 1953–1979. In 1982 he began teaching Latin at St. Johnsbury Academy, which he did until his death. In 1999 he was named Vermont's Citizen of the Year by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce, and in 2003, he was the first teacher to win the Victor R. Swenson Humanities Educator Award, given by the Vermont Humanities Council.

40 **Dorothy E. Dimm**, 89, of Middletown, N.J., on July 26, 2008. She worked first for Joseph d'Assern & Co., then later for Tucker Anthony, R.L. Day, Inc., in NYC. Deceased Middlebury relatives include sister Audrey Dimm Foster '39. Surviving Middlebury relatives include brother-in-law Paul Foster '37.

Frederick J. Grab, 91, of Demarest, N.J., on July 27, 2008. After working at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, he enlisted in the Air Corps as an aviation cadet and graduated a second lieutenant, bombardier. In 1946 he went to work at National Cash Register where he stayed 35 years, retiring in 1981. Predeceased by wife Doris (Jones) '40, he is survived by sons Rick and David, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Talbot F. Hamlin, 90, of Ipswich, Mass., on June 4, 2008. After working in the music industry, he went to work for Johnson O'Connor Human Engineering Laboratory in Boston where he stayed 18 years. During that time he earned an M.Ed. at Boston Univ. In 1960 he went to work for Allyn and Bacon, a textbook publishing company, editing numerous social studies, math, and reading series. In 1983 he changed companies

IN MEMORIAM

Donald H. Ballou

MARCH 28, 1908–SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF MATHEMATICS Donald Ballou, 100, passed away on September 15, 2008. After graduating as a Phi Beta Kappa from Yale Univ., he earned his MA and Ph.D. in mathematics from Harvard Univ. In 1934 he accepted a position on the faculty of the Georgia Institute of Technology where he taught for eight years. During that time he cowrote two math textbooks that were widely used for decades.

In 1942 he joined the faculty at Middlebury. He became chairman of the math department in 1954 and was named a Charles A. Dana Professor of Mathematics in 1971. An early pioneer in computer studies, he helped initiate the development of the College's computer studies program in the 1960s. The computer lab in the math department was named in his honor.

After retiring in 1973, he continued to attend the weekly mathematics seminar at the College for 30 years. He traveled extensively and was actively involved in the community, serving 25 years as treasurer for the Friends of the Ilsley Library, among other activities.

Predeceased by wife Dorothy (Pollard) '29, he is survived by son Donald, two grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

and joined Addison Wesley Publishers, focusing on English as a Second Language texts. He retired in 1990 but continued as a freelance professional. Predeceased by wife Allison (Sanford) '41, he is survived by twin brother Wilfrid and several nieces and nephews including Jennifer Hamlin Church '72 and Sam Hamlin '77. He was the great-grandson of Cyrus Hamlin, president of Middlebury from 1880–1885.

41 **Roger M. Griffith**, 88, of Essex Junction, Vt., on June 7, 2008. During WWII he served with the 849th Signal Intelligence Service and British 8th Army in North Africa and Italy, then returned to military service in Washington, D.C., during the Korean conflict. His journalism career began at the *Rutland Herald* summers during college, then continued at the *Burlington Free Press, Boston Herald,* and *Barre Times-Argus,* where he was the managing editor. From there he became the public relations director for UVM's medical school, followed by several years with Garden Way Publications where he wrote and served as editor. He wrote many books including *What a Way to Live, the Lyman P. Wood Story* as well as back-to-the-land books. He ended his career as an editor with Soundview Executive Book Summaries. An accomplished photographer, he had several of his photos featured in *Vermont Life* magazine in the 1950s. Survivors include wife Susan (Backman), sons Roger and William, daughter Jane, stepchildren Virginia, John, and Betsy, several grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include cousin Christopher Brown '74.

42 **John F. Bates**, 87, of Columbus, N.C., on July 16, 2008. Serving in the U.S. Naval Air Corps in WWII, he was first pilot on bombing missions and PBY-5A Patrol throughout the South Pacific, including Iwo Jima and Okinawa. He received the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He joined the Stanley Works in 1945 and spent his entire career with the company serving in several different managerial positions and retiring as Group VP for one of the consumer divisions. He received the Norman F. Luekens Award from the National Wholesale Hardware Association for "strong leadership and dedicated industry service." A loyal Midd alum, he was on the Alumni Council and served as president of the Alumni Association. He and his wife were longtime class secretaries. Predeceased by wife Nan (Rindfusz) '42, he is survived by sons Jeffrey, Michael, R. Tiffany, and Sanford, daughter Margaret, 12 grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include brother Donald '49 and wife Lulubel Newton Bates '47, and cousin Frederick Bates '42. Surviving Middlebury relatives include brother-in-law John Freese '49, niece Martha Freese Shattuck '73, and niece Patricia Bates '73.

William D. Green Jr., 88, of Washington, D.C., on July 24, 2008. After earning a master's in engineering from MIT, he worked on radar development at MIT during WWII then switched to the instrumentation lab where he helped create guidance systems for airplanes, guided missiles, satellites, and spacecraft. From 1963 until 2004, he worked for NASA, participating in engineer and design work on the Gemini, Apollo, Sky lab, Space Station, and Space Shuttle programs. His many projects as a senior engineer included IMAX film development and Voyager course corrections. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Grace (Shattyn), daughters Ellen and Lucy, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

44 **Paul D. Davis**, 85, of Kirkland, Wash., on June 1, 2008. After serving in the Army as a high-speed Morse code operator during WWII, he finished his degree and earned a master's in journalism at Columbia Univ. With a Pulitzer Traveling Fellowship, he and his wife traveled through postwar Europe for six months as he filed articles for the *Providence Journal.* After working for the *Journal* 11 years, he joined the academic world, serving in development offices at Brown Univ., New College in Sarasota, Fla., and the Univ. of Wis. at Green Bay. Taking an early retirement, he and his wife joined the Peace Corps in Belize for three years, then settled in Mexico in 1987. Predeceased in 1994 by wife Phoebe (Browning) and in 2007 by companion Janet Townsend Roberts '45, he is survived by daughter Brenda, son Dwight, and two grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include sister Ruth Davis Kaufman '49, and cousins Deborah Highley '80, Susan Highley '83, and Carolyn Highley '86.

John A. Hyman, 86, of Williamsburg, Va., on July 13, 2008. He was a WWII Army veteran of the 143rd Infantry, Class A in North Africa, in the Italian Campaign, including the Battle of Monte Cassino, and in France. He assisted with the capture of Hermann Goering in Bavaria during the final days of the Third Reich. He had successful careers in retailing, marketing, and manufacturing and was a passionate collector of antiques and a generous patron of the arts. Survivors include wife Betty Leviner, sons John and Neil, and two grandsons.

Earl H. Upham, 87, of Tucson, Ariz., on July 4, 2008. During WWII, he served as a navigator in the Air Force, flying 32 missions with the 42nd Bomb Group in the South Pacific. In 1956 he and his family moved to Tucson where he worked 27 years for Hughes Aircraft in the area of financial analysis. Survivors include wife Edna (Balaniz), son Christopher, daughters Elizabeth, Jan, Elaine, Ellice, and Ellette, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

45 **J. Hallie Jones vom Orde**, 83, of Reno, Nev., on August 11, 2008. Serving her community as a school volunteer, she also enjoyed golfing, traveling, camping, fishing, and bird-watching. She was a member of the Audubon Society and a board member of the Washington National Catholic School. She is survived by husband Ewald, a retired Marine colonel, son Kurt, daughters Alice and Lisa, and five grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include cousin Delinda McCormick Mix '54.

47 **Mary Hamilton Dutcher**, 82, of Carrollton, Texas, on July 20, 2008. A longtime resident of Appleton, Wis., she was a member of the service organization, the Kings Daughters, and was very active in the First Congregational Church. Predeceased by husband Sidney, she is survived by daughter Cindy Lyons, sons Robert, Bert, and James, nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Barbara J. Parker, 82, of West Hartford, Conn., on August 12, 2008. For almost 40 years she worked at the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co. as an underwriter and retired as a reinsurance manager and assistant to the vice president. She was active in her church and in various charitable organizations. Survivors include sister Elma Canfield, a niece and nephew, and several great-nieces and –nephews.

48 **Barbara Vehling Bowles**, 81, of Greeley, Colo., on June 3, 2008. With her husband, she ran Bowles' Books in Greeley for 14 years. Through the years she also taught high school English and drama, elementary special education, adult literacy, and English as a Second Language. With a love of poetry, she produced a slim volume of her poems. She was also one of the founders of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Greeley where she was active in church leadership and Sunday School and wrote several songs for the services. Survivors include husband Francis, son Robert, daughter Debbie Peyton, and five grandchildren.

Ann Walthall Kittredge, 80, of San Diego, Calif., on June 11, 2008. After graduate work at the Univ. of Mich., she worked as a medical technologist in Ann Arbor, Mich., Kansas City, Mo., and Houston, Texas. Later she worked as an interviewer for the Bureau of Census in Mercersburg, Pa., where she was president of the Mercersburg Women's Club. Afterwards she managed a 4-Diamond resort on Long Boat Key, Fla., before retiring to San Diego, Calif. Survivors include sons Dan, Jonathan, and David.

Constance Bergersen Paisley, 80, of Coral Gables, Fla., on August 19, 2006. After teaching four years, she began a career as a legal secretary. Retiring early, she and her husband traveled extensively. She was a member of the American Recorder Society. Predeceased by husband James, she is survived by five stepchildren and five stepgrandchildren.

49 **Margery Johnson Norton**, 81, of Spokane, Wash., on July 5, 2008. After earning her master's in history at Clark Univ., she taught at private secondary schools in Grosse Pointe, Mich., and Portland, Ore., before joining the faculty at Colby-Sawyer College where she taught 10 years. During that time she returned to Clark Univ. to study for her Ph.D., which she received in 1966. After a move to Fitchburg, Mass., she taught graduate-level courses at Fitchburg State College and served as clerk in the Ashby Congregational Church. She is survived by husband Donald.

Robert E. Seixas, 83, of Randolph, Mass., on August 16, 2008. Originally in the Class of 1946, Bob was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon. During WWII, he served in the Navy Air Corps, continuing to fly in the Naval Reserve after returning to Middlebury in 1946. Recalled to active duty during the Korean conflict, he flew 125 combat missions as a jet pilot from the carrier *Antietam.* Bob's career was in sales, industrial fasteners, and financial products. His lifelong avocation was playing in and leading small and large swing bands, as well as solo piano. Predeceased by brother John '37, he is survived by wife Norma, former wife Jean Scroggie '49 and their children Bill and Patricia, and three grandchildren.

50 **Robert S. Bennitt**, 84, of Branford, Conn., on June 20, 2008. During WWII, he served in the Navy aboard the destroyer escort USS *Cockrill* as a signalman. As a metalizing engineer, he went to work in the 1950s for the Eyelet Specialty Company where he stayed until his retirement. With a lifelong love of hockey, he played for 35 years and helped cofound the Wallingford, Conn., youth hockey program, coaching the teams for many years. With a great love for sailing, he was the longest standing member of the Branford Yacht Club. In retirement, he discovered a passion for building and repairing stone walls with his wife. He is survived by wife Claire (Clark), son Colin, daughters Susan '80, Martha, and Jennifer, and seven grandchildren.

51 **Rupert A. Covey**, 78, of Bethany, Conn., on June 6, 2008. After earning a master's from UNH in 1953 and a Ph.D. in pharmaceutical chemistry from the Univ. of Mich., he went to work for Uniroyal Chemical Company, spending his career in chemical research. During that time he acquired numerous patents and had one of his chemicals developed as a major insecticide. Survivors include wife Irene (Shuster), son Bruce, daughters Susan and Karen, five grandchildren, and brother Wilton Covey '41.

56 **Judith Hastings Dresden**, 73, of Harpswell, Maine, on August 6, 2008. With an MS in educational measurement from Connecticut State Teachers' College, she worked in curriculum research and development in the Houston (Texas) Independent School District and was responsible for many scholarly and teaching publications. At the time of her retirement, she was an assistant professor in the department of educational research and development at Baylor College of Medicine. Predeceased by husband Marc, she is survived by daughters Cynthia and Laurel, and three grandchildren.

Helga Neuse Whitcomb, 74, of South Burlington, Vt., on August 19, 2008. After graduation, she became a teaching assistant in the doctoral program in German at Stanford Univ. as she pursued her own doctoral studies. As she and her family moved around the country, she worked in plant pathology at Cornell Experiment Station, and was active in faculty wives' organizations, League of Women Voters, and the American Association of University Women. In Normal, Ill., she began working at the Illinois State Univ. library, eventually serving as head of the interlibrary loan dept. and as a research librarian until her retirement. Survivors include husband Richard, daughter Katharine, son John, and two grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include sister Ingrid Neuse Ambrus '59.

58 **Carol Waldorf Lohr**, 71, of Saratoga, Calif., on August 19, 2008. After graduate work in French and Russian at Stanford Univ., she supported her husband in his first building and development business, Saratoga Foothills Development Corp. While raising three children, she continued to support him as he built two additional, successful enterprises—J. Lohr Properties, and J. Lohr Vineyards, which produces wines that have worldwide distribution. Survivors include husband Jerry, sons Steven and Lawrence, daughter Cynthia, and two grandchildren.

70 **Nancy A. Trease**, 59, of Austin, Texas, on June 25, 2008. With a law degree from Georgetown Univ., she was an accomplished public interest lawyer who worked for Legal Aid programs in Florida, and later led regional Legal Aid programs in Tucson and Dallas. In retirement she felt great pride in being one of the advocates who brought public attention to the need to stop and reexamine the use of the death penalty in Texas. Survivors include her life partner Randy Chapman, brother Don, and sisters Norma and Martha.

78 **Paul E. Nordstrom**, 53, of Potomac, Md., on August 15, 2008. With a JD from NYU School of Law, he practiced 25 years in the area of energy law. A partner in the firms Sullivan & Worcester and Verner, Liipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand, he also served as president of the Energy Bar Association, an international association of energy lawyers, and was the founding president of the Charitable Foundation of the Energy Bar Association. Survivors include wife Kathleen Henry '78, children Soren, Neysa, and Skyler, his parents, and two brothers.

79 **Jay S. Moore**, 51, of Providence, R.I., on July 25, 2008. Living in Providence the last eight years, he was a freelance advertiser and a realtor for Samson Realty. He is survived by father William, mother Patricia, brother William, and sisters Laurie, Kimberly, and Marlene.

95 **Nicholas A. Stacker**, 35, of Mendota Heights, Minn., on July 6, 2008. With a degree from Harvard Business School and his love of travel and the Spanish language, he pursued employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in Mexico, based in Mexico City. Predeceased by his mother, Lynne, he is survived by his father, Howard, and sister Tara.

STAFF

Virginia Micciche Boone, 96, of Smithtown, N.Y., on June 22, 2008. Beginning at the College in 1965, she worked first as a bookkeeper and later as an assistant comptroller, retiring in 1978. During this time, she also owned and operated Singing Brook Inn in Pittsford, Vt. Predeceased by husband Gardner and son William, she is survived by son Gardner, daughters Margaret and Julie, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Theresa Cosmas Jackman, 56, of New Haven, Vt., on July 19, 2008. After operating a business in Bristol, Vt., she joined the College staff in 1982 in the controller's office. Leaving in 1988 to work at the Vermont Folk Life Center, she returned to the College in 2000 and eventually became the employer relations coordinator in the Career Services Office. Survivors include husband Michael, stepsons Jason and Mason, and granddaughter Chastan.

FRIEND OF THE COLLEGE

Florence Block Pool, 79, of Middlebury, Vt., on October 12, 2008. Upon the death of her husband, chemistry professor Edwin L. Pool, in 1994 she helped set up the E.L. Pool Qualitative Analysis Prize, an annual award given to an outstanding laboratory student in Fundamentals of Chemistry II. She enjoyed handing out the award in the spring and meeting the students. Survivors include son Gary, daughters Debra and Amy, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

40 **Dorothea Cloud Morse**, 90, MA French, of Kennett Square, Pa., on June 6, 2008. She worked as a legal administrator until her retirement in 2002. In the 1980s she was clerk of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, the highest position in the largest Quaker body in the U.S.

51 **Shelton T. Belsches Sr.**, 86, MA Spanish, of Hopewell, Va., on May 14, 2008. A WWII veteran of the Army Air Corps and Air Force Reserve, he had a 38-year career in education. In 1959, he was appointed the first supervisor of foreign languages in the Virginia State Dept. of Education.

Tenbroeck Cornell, 84, MA French, of York, Maine, on May 26, 2008. After serving in the Army Air Corps in WWII, he taught French at Newton (Mass.) South High School, Berwick Academy, and UNH. He was a past president of the Salon Français.

52 **Robert B. Diffenderfer**, 82, MA French, of New York City, N.Y., on May 21, 2008. After teaching at Finch College, he became the manager of Pierre Deux French Antiques in Greenwich Village.

57 **William L. Easterling**, 79, MA French, of Savannah, Ga., on May 31, 2008. Through a long teaching career, he taught at several colleges, eventually settling in Savannah and becoming the head of the foreign language dept. at Armstrong State College.

60 **Dorothy Thompson Evita**, 76, MA Spanish, of Washington, D.C., on June 16, 2008. She was a Spanish teacher at Duke Ellington School in D.C.

65 **Dale D. Shoemaker**, 78, MA Spanish, of Northampton, Pa., on February 7, 2008. After working as an English and Spanish teacher for Northampton Area School District for more than 28 years, he retired in 1985 and purchased the *Blue Mountain Gazette*, which he published and edited until 1994.

69 **Paul L. Desrochers**, 75, MA French, of Morrisville, Vt., on June 3, 2008. A long-time French and Latin teacher, he taught at Peoples Academy in Morrisville for over 20 years, then continued his career at Twinfield High School and Craftsbury Academy.

74 **Joseph P. Miranda**, 74, MA Spanish, of Sanborn, N.Y., on May 24, 2008. After teaching at Niagara Univ. and Damon College, he taught foreign languages for 30 years for the Niagara Falls Board of Education, retiring in 1990.

82 **Sharon B. Voishnis**, 56, MA Spanish, of Derry, N.H., on June 14, 2008. She spent her entire 24-year career as a Spanish and French teacher at Salem (N.H.) High School, often organizing foreign trips to Spain and Mexico for her students.

CLASSIFIEDS

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Postcard from Iraq

How some Iraqis viewed the American presidential election

By Deni Y. Béchard, MA French '07

Five days before the U.S. presidential election in November, I caught a flight from Istanbul to the northern Iraqi city of Sulaymaniyah, near the mountainous borders of Iran and Turkey. With the help of a translator, I decided to conduct a poll to determine whether Iraqi Kurds thought McCain or Obama would be better for them.

In the bazaar, and later in the grand mosque's courtyard, I spoke with bakers, butchers, soldiers, artists, mullahs, cab-drivers, carpenters, rice sellers, traffic police, truck drivers, shop owners, delivery men, as well as Qu'ran and prayer-bead vendors. Kurds generally preferred Obama. A group of blind men on mosque benches said they had no opinion, and some deaf men, when the translator put the question on paper, each made an "O" with his thumb and forefinger and held it over his right eye before pointing to Obama's name written in Kurdish; only one of them favored McCain.

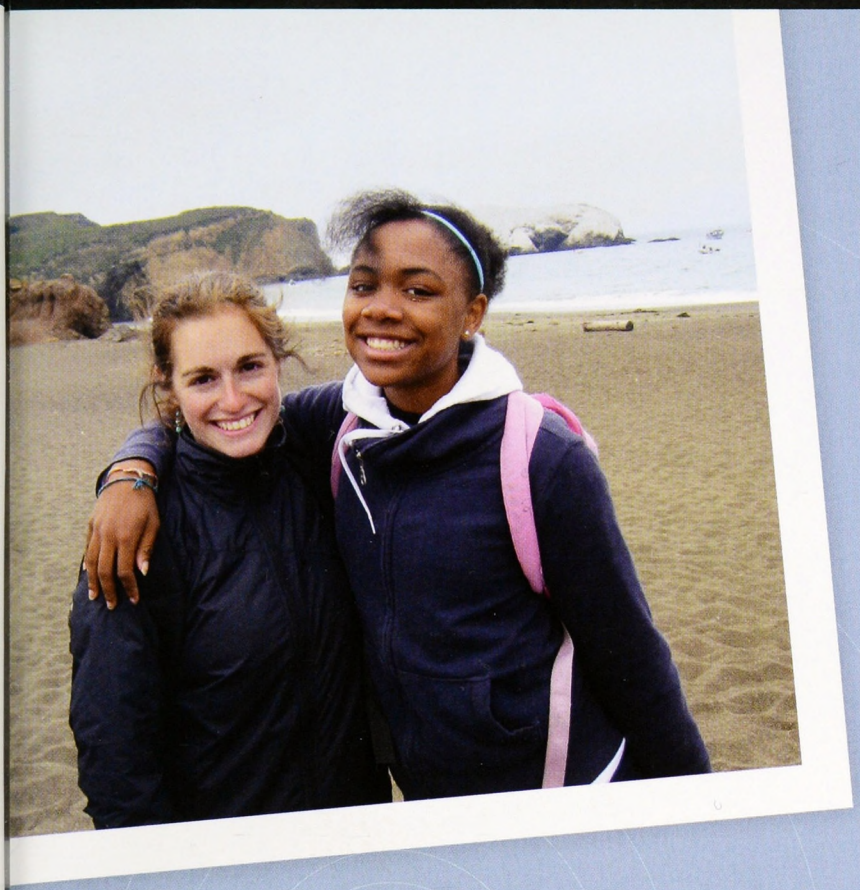
Of the 100 people I spoke with, 51 thought Obama would be better for the Iraqi Kurds, 24 had no opinion, 16 favored McCain, 6 said there was no substantial difference between the two, 2 said they hated Americans and didn't care, and one very old man said that he liked Bill Clinton's wife and no one else would be better.

My results ran counter to those of an *Economist* poll that attempted to show how the world would vote and pegged Iraq, Algeria, the Congo, and, oddly enough, Cuba as the only countries that would elect McCain. Furthermore, an Associated Press article, co-authored by a Kurdish journalist and a Baghdadi journalist, stated that Kurds overwhelmingly supported McCain, whereas Sunnis supported Obama; Shiites, as portrayed in the article, thought that both candidates would be more or less the same.

During the weeks I spent in northern Iraq, I asked several Kurds about the AP article. A few said that the Kurdish author didn't represent Sulaymaniyah but perhaps Kirkuk (an Arabized city and one much less stable than Sulaymaniyah). As for the *Economist* survey, it found Iraqis favoring McCain by 10 points. This did not seem representative of the north, which is supposed to be the source of McCain's support, and I cannot speak to what the majority of people thought in the south. However, I spoke with several Sunnis not included in the *Economist* poll. One, a *khatib* (preacher), who fled to Sulaymaniyah after his mosque in Baghdad was bombed, told me that he is the head of a federation of 5,000 Sunni *khatibs* and that he did not know of a single member who didn't prefer Obama.

A simple question of preference, however, cannot evoke the complexity of a country's politics. Take the Kurdish view of George W. Bush. Whereas Sunnis disliked him, nearly every Kurd with whom I spoke called him a "strong man" who had improved life in Iraqi Kurdistan. The Kurds, having been autonomous under American protection since 1991, had lobbied for an invasion, though many said that Bush was a better conqueror than a ruler and that the time for war was over. The world, I was told, needed a leader capable of paying attention to details and who wouldn't forget the little people.

Illustration by Pep Montserrat



Emily Adler '07 (left) with high school student Natasha Cooper after a day of climate classes.

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